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THE

BENGAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PROCEEDINGS.

(Official Report.)

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GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

GOVERNOR OF BENGAL.

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A

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D

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G

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J

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K

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Khan, Maulvi Amanat, B.A. [Chittagong (Muhammadan).]
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin. [Rangpur East (Muhammadan).]

L

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M

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N

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O

Oaten, Mr. E. F. (Nominated Official.)

P

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Philip, Mr. J. Y. (Bengal Chamber of Commerce.)

Q

Quader, Maulvi Abdul. [Jessore South (Muhammadan).]

R

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Roy Chaudhury, Babu Brajendra Kishore. (Dacca Landholders.)

S

Salam, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Abdus. [Jessore North (Muhammadan).]
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar. [Nadia (Non-Muhammadan).]
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan. [Mymensingh East (Non-Muhammadan).]
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Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed. [Calcutta South (Muhammadan).]
Swan, Mr. J. A. L. (Nominated Official.)

T

Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin. [Bogra (Muhammadan).]
Travers, Mr. W. L., O.B.E. [Rajshahi (European).]

V

Villiers, Mr. Edward. [Presidency and Burdwan (European).]

W

Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers. (Bengal Chamber of Commerce.)
Wilson, Mr. R. B., C.I.E. (Bengal Chamber of Commerce.)

Y

THE BENGAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

(Official Report of the Fourteenth Session.)

VOLUME XIV—No. 5.

Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Government of India Act.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in the Town Hall, Calcutta, on Tuesday, the 18th March, 1924, at 3 P.M.

Present:

The Hon'ble the President in the Chair, the four Hon'ble Members of the Executive Council, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. Abdul Karim Abu Ahmed Khan Ghuznavi, and 124 nominated and elected members.

Oath.

The following member made an oath of his allegiance to the Crown:—

Khan Bahadur MIRZA SHUJA'AT ALI BEG.

Mr. PRESIDENT (the Hon'ble Mr. H. E. A. Cotton): Order, order! Gentlemen, I have it in command from His Excellency the Governor to announce that His Excellency will address the Council this afternoon.

Starred Questions

(to which oral answers were given).

Medical institution at Howrah.

***LXXII. Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Local Self-Government be pleased to state as to how the donation of Rs. 50,000 by Babu Sanat Kumar Mukherjee, zamindar (Hooghly and Howrah district), in aid of medical education has been disposed of?

(*b*) Is it a fact that no part of the donation has been spent in the interests of the Hooghly or Howrah district?

(*c*) Is the Hon'ble the Minister aware that there is a well-equipped hospital in Howrah?

(*d*) Is the Hon'ble the Minister aware that the want of a medical institution in Howrah is felt by the people of the districts of Howrah and Hooghly?

(*e*) Are the Government considering the desirability of establishing a medical college or even a medical school at Howrah?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq): (*a*) Out of the donation mentioned, a sum of Rs. 10,000 has been allotted by the Minister to the Mymensingh Medical School and a sum of Rs. 20,000 has been earmarked for the Chittagong Medical School. The balance has not yet been disposed of.

(*b*) No definite scheme for medical education has been received from Hooghly or Howrah district towards which any part of the donation could be utilized.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Resolutions passed by the district boards of Hooghly and Howrah last year expressing their desire to have a medical school at either Howrah or Hooghly were forwarded by the Commissioner to Government.

(*e*) The Minister expressed his willingness to consider sympathetically any practicable scheme with substantial financial help which the district boards concerned might submit. No practicable scheme has yet been submitted to Government.

Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY: Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge be pleased to instruct the officers both in the General and Medical Departments to move in the matter?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: I submit, Sir, that this is not a request for information.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Boroda Babu, you should give notice of this question.

Electrical division in Calcutta.

***LXXIII. Mr. S. N. HALDAR:** (*a*) Is the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Public Works aware that the Public Works Department Reorganisation Committee reported so long ago as 1917, that while they recognised the necessity of an Electrical Inspector for each province, they were not convinced that the appointment of a second Electrical Engineer was justified?

(*b*) If so, will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state why the Government have not acted up to the unanimous recommendation of the Committee that there should be a single Electrical Inspector and that all work except *bona fide* maintenance should be entrusted to private firms?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC WORKS (the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Chuznavi): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The duties of the Electrical Inspector and the Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, are entirely different. The Electrical Inspector is primarily the advisor of Government in regard to the administration of the Electricity Act both in this Presidency and in Assam, and his duties include the settling of disputes arising under the Act, frequent inspections, and carrying out of tests. In addition he prepares and supervises projects for electrical work outside Calcutta. His duties under the Act would not allow of his undertaking executive duties in Calcutta in addition to his present work. The Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, on the other hand is a purely executive officer. He advises, prepares estimates, and supervises electrical work in Government buildings in Calcutta and his time is fully occupied in such work. All electrical work in buildings except *bona fide* maintenance is already entrusted to private firms.

Middle class unemployment.

***LXXIV. Maulvi SAYEDAL HOQUE:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Agriculture and Industries be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the unemployment question amongst the educated and the middle class people in Bengal is taking a serious turn?

(*b*) If so, what preventive steps, if any, are the Government taking in the matter?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE and INDUSTRIES (the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Chuznavi): (*a*) It is understood that the unemployment question is serious.

(*b*) Government appointed a committee to investigate the problem and suggest remedial measures. Their report is awaited.

Dr. H. W. B. MORENO: Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge be pleased to give us an approximate date as to when the report will be ready?

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: I am afraid it is not possible to say at present.

Medical schools.

*LXXV. **Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA:** (a) Is the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Local Self-Government aware that the number of medical practitioners in Bengal is insufficient?

(b) Is it a fact that the ratio of medical men to population is about 1 in 40,000?

(c) Are the Government considering the necessity of starting more medical schools in Bengal and also of affording facilities to existing schools and colleges to enable them to train a larger number of students?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The ratio of registered medical practitioners to population in Bengal is about 1 in 10,000.

(c) Government have recognized the necessity of starting more medical schools in Bengal. A new medical school will shortly be opened at Mymensingh, and, as funds become available, medical schools will be started at Chittagong, Berhampore, Jalpaiguri and other places as recommended by the Medical Schools Committee. The existing Government medical schools and the Calcutta Medical College have already the maximum number of students they are capable of accommodating.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge be pleased to say when the medical school at Chittagong will be opened?

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Hon'ble Minister has already answered the question. He has said that it will be opened as funds become available.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to say whether funds will be available this session?

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Hon'ble Minister cannot answer that. Maulvi Nurul Huq Chaudhury has himself proposed the refusal of the whole medical budget.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: I may mention that the time when funds will become available will depend on the extent to which we get funds, and also on the extent to which we get the co-operation of the members of this Council to utilise the funds.

Surgeon Superintendents of hospitals in Calcutta.

*LXXVI. **Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA:** (a) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Surgeon Superintendent of any hospital in Calcutta has yet been appointed from among private practitioners?

(b) If not, will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state whether the Government are proposing to do the same at an early date?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: (a) No.

(b) There is no such proposal before Government.

Judicial work at Malda.

***LXXVII. Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI:** (a) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Judicial Department be pleased to state the total quantity of judicial work, civil, original, appellate and miscellaneous, now pending in the file of the Subordinate Judge at Malda?

(b) Is the arrear of work due to the posting of the Subordinate Judge at Malda for two months a year or for any other reason?

(c) As regards Sessions trials of Malda criminal cases, will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state in how many cases the accused have been tried in Sessions cases—

(i) after the lapse of 3 months from the date of commitment; and

(ii) after the lapse of 6 months from the date of commitment?

(d) Are the Government considering the desirability of posting at Malda—

(i) either one Additional District Judge,

(ii) or, in the alternative, one Assistant Sessions Judge

from the beginning of the next financial year?

MEMBER in charge of JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-Rahim): (a), (b) and (c) Statements are laid on the table.

(d) The answer is in the negative.

Statement of pending files before the Subordinate Judge at Malda at the end of the year 1923, referred to in the reply to clause (a) of starred question No. LXXVII.

Class of suits.	Total pending at the close of year.	Pending over 1 year.	Pending over 6 months.
Money, including S. C. C. ..	85	7	26
Rent suits	4	3	1
Title and O. C. suits	87	51*	28
Execution cases	60	10	39
Miscellaneous cases	30	2	18
Appeals	125	37	53

* One before Privy Council and four pending for final decree.

Table of pending files in the Court of the Subordinate Judge of Madda at the close of the Fourth Quarter of 1923, and explanations of the delay in the disposal of cases, referred to in the reply to clause (b) of starred question No. LXXVII.

Total number of suits, etc., pending over twelve months.	Title and other suits	51
	Rent suits	3
	Suits for money or moveables ..	4
	Appeals from decrees ..	31
Total number of suits, etc., pending over six months.	Small Cause Court cases ..	27
	Miscellaneous judicial cases ..	20
	Miscellaneous appeals ..	20
	Total ..	156
	Applications for the execution of decrees	49

B.

I.—ORIGINAL CASES.

	Cases pending over Six months.	Cases pending over Twelve months.
(i) Total number delayed by order from an Appellate Court, or awaiting decision of a material issue in an Appellate Court, or Original Court ..	..	1
(ii) Total number delayed for want of Court's time ..	23	4
(iii) Total number delayed by desire of the parties ..	24	49
(iv) Pending for final decree	..	4

II.—APPEALS.

(v) Total number delayed for want of Court's time ..	6	19
(vi) Total number awaiting records from the Lower Courts	14	12
Total ..	67	89

Statement showing Sessions cases tried during the year 1923 at Malda referred to in the reply to clause (c) of starred question No. LXXVII.

Number of Sessions cases tried.	Number of accused persons.	Number of cases—		
		Within 3 months from the date of commitment.	After 3 months from the date of commitment.	After 6 months from the date of commitment.
21	38	8	9	4

Agriculturists in Agricultural Department.

*LXXVIII. **Dr. MOHINI MOHON DAS:** (a) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Agriculture and Industries be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

(i) the number of persons who are purely agriculturists who are serving in the Agricultural Department; and

(ii) the number of students belonging to the purely agricultural classes in the Government Agricultural Institution?

(b) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state—

(i) the procedure adopted in taking in probationers in the Agricultural Department; and

(ii) whether there is any special consideration shown in favour of agriculturists?

The Hon'ble Haji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: (a) (i) The information cannot be obtained without an amount of labour which will not be commensurate with its value.

(ii) All the students of the Dacca Agricultural School, to which presumably the member is referring, are either sons of cultivators or of people directly connected with the land, and therefore they may be said to belong to purely agricultural classes. Their number has varied from time to time, but when the school is open it approximates to 36.

(b) (i) Selection of District Agricultural Officers is made on basis of training in an agricultural college or school or in a Government farm, and demonstrators are now recruited from passed students of schools, who are certified as belonging to the purely agricultural classes.

(ii) Government prefer agriculturists as students in the Dacca Farm School and as demonstrators.

Duties of Chaukidars.

*LXXIX. **Babu JOGENDRA NATH MITRA:** (a) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Police Department be pleased to state—

(i) whether it is a fact that the chaukidars are entirely paid out of the Chaukidari Fund;

(ii) whether, in addition to the duties imposed upon them under section 39 of Bengal Act VI of 1870, they are also employed—

(1) for guarding or escorting prisoners;

(2) for assisting the police in the execution of their duties;

(3) for helping in the service of processes and proclamations issued by Revenue and Criminal Courts; and

(4) for attending the touring officers while on duty to make arrangements for their conveyances?

(b) If the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, are the Government considering the desirability of introducing a Bill for the amendment of the Chaukidari Act providing for the exemption of villagers from the payment of a part of the pay of chaukidars?

MEMBER in charge of POLICE DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson): (a) (i) Yes, in the case of areas under the Village Chaukidari Act.

(ii) (1), (2) and (3) Under the rules framed under the Act chaukidars are required to the best of their ability to assist the police in the execution of their duty, which includes the guarding and escorting of prisoners so far as their services are absolutely necessary for this purpose. They are also required to serve all processes made over to them by the President Panchayat.

(4) There is no rule requiring them to attend on touring officers.

(b) Government are not contemplating any amendment of the Chaukidari Act.

Babu JOGENDRA NATH MITRA: My question is whether the chaukidars are actually employed for attending the touring officers while on duty to make arrangements for their convenience, but the answer is that there is no rule requiring chaukidars to attend on touring officers. I know that there is no such rule.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Jogendra Babu, are you asking a question?

Babu JOGENDRA NATH MITRA: Yes, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Then, please put it in the form of a question.

Babu JOGENDRA NATH MITRA: Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge be pleased to say whether chaukidars are actually employed for the purpose or not?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I am afraid I shall have to make inquiries on the point, as I have no personal knowledge of the matter.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Jogendra Babu, you should give notice of that question.

Punitive Police at Jambani thana.

***LXXX. Mr. SATCOWRIPATI ROY:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Police Department be pleased to state—

(*i*) at whose instance punitive police were posted in the Jambani thana; and

(*ii*) the reasons for which the police are retained in that thana at present?

(*b*) Is the Hon'ble the Member aware that the proprietor of the Jambani pargana has been exempted from the assessment of the punitive police tax?

(*c*) If so, will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state the reasons for this?

(*d*) Will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state what steps, if any, the Government have taken upon the petition made by the people of the Jambani pargana to His Excellency the Governor of Bengal for redemption of the punitive police tax assessed upon them?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: (*a*) (*i*) Additional police were posted in the area referred to on the recommendations of the local officers.

(*ii*) The period of one year mentioned in the proclamation has not expired and Government are not satisfied that the force can yet be safely withdrawn.

(*b*) The proprietor of the Jambani pargana is among the four zamindars who have been exempted by Government under section 15 (*5*) of the Police Act from liability to bear any portion of the cost of the additional police.

(*c*) In the opinion of Government responsibility for the disturbed conditions, which necessitated the quartering of additional police, did not lie with the zamindars, who have already suffered heavily through the outbreak of disorder.

(*d*) The petition for exemption from assessment towards the cost of the additional police has been rejected.

Distraint in default of payment of chaukidari tax.

*LXXXI. **Dr. MOHINI MOHON DAS:** Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Police Department be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing, district by district, the number of attachments of moveable properties on account of default in payment of chaukidari tax during the period from 1920 to date?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: The information is not readily available and the labour involved in obtaining it would be incommensurate with its value.

Unstarred questions

(answers to which were laid on the table).

Muhammadans in the office of the Presidency Commissioner.

124. **Maulvi FAZLAL KARIM CHOWDHURY:** (*a*) Is the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Revenue (Land Revenue) aware that in December last two Hindu candidates were appointed in the office of the Commissioner of the Presidency Division?

(*b*) Is the Hon'ble the Member also aware that there were Muhammadan candidates?

(*c*) If so, what is the reason for not appointing any of the Muhammadans?

(*d*) Will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state whether the maximum of Muhammadan employees, i.e., one-third of the total, has been reached in the said office?

(*e*) If not, what is the reason for non-compliance with the directions contained in the Government circular of 1914?

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of REVENUE [LAND REVENUE] (the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes, out of 14 candidates there were two Muhammadans.

(*c*) The vacancies were in the posts of typists. Neither of the Muhammadan candidates was a trained and qualified typist.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) The want of qualified candidates.

Maulvi FAZLAL KARIM CHOWDHURY: Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge be pleased to state whether the Hindu candidates appointed were trained typists and whether they were examined before they were appointed?

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I should like to have fresh notice of this question

Ghosalpara Road.

125. **Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI:** (*a*) With reference to the reply given to my unstarred question No. 57, dated the 15th August, 1923, will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the report referred to therein has been received by the Government?

(*b*) If so, will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the said report?

(*c*) If no copy of the report has yet been received, will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state the reasons for the delay?

(*d*) Is it a fact that several representations were made by the hackney-carriage drivers and other people of the locality for the improvement of the said Ghosalpara Road?

(*e*) Is it a fact that on the 14th July, 1923, the 24-Parganas District Board appointed a sub-committee of four members including Mr. Lyne, the Subdivisional Officer of Barrackpore, to fix a new alignment for the said road?

(*f*) Is it a fact that Mr. Lyne submitted a report on the 8th September last fixing a new alignment for the improvement of the said road?

(*g*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to inquire what action, if any, has been taken by the District Board on Mr. Lyne's report?

(*h*) If no action has yet been taken, will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to draw the attention of the 24-Parganas District Board to it?

(*i*) Is the Hon'ble the Minister aware of the local people's contribution towards the Bamna Road project connecting Narayanpur with Mukundpur?

(*j*) If so, are the Government considering the desirability of inquiring why no action has been taken by the 24-Parganas District Board on Mr. Lyne's report regarding the same project?

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN GHUZNAVI: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) A copy is laid on the table.

(*c*) The question does not arise.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) Mr. Lyne submitted his report on the 18th September, 1923, and not on the 8th September, 1923.

(*g*) The report was circulated to the members of a sub-committee of the District Board for opinion. It is proposed to discuss the report at a meeting of the Board.

(*h*) The question does not arise.

(*i*) The sum of Rs. 230 has been contributed by the local people towards the cost of acquisition of land.

(*j*) No; in his report dated the 22nd September, 1923, Mr. Lyle recommended a foot-path 12 feet wide instead of a road and the District Engineer is taking action accordingly.

Report referred to in the reply to clause (b) of unstarred question No. 125.

No. 166 R/L.A., dated Calcutta, the 4th September, 1923.

From—The Commissioner of the Presidency Division,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Local Self-Government Department.

I have the honour to refer to your memo. No. 1348 L.S.G., dated the 20th April, 1923, regarding certain petitions protesting against the acquisition of land required by the 24-Parganas District Board for the improvement of Ghosalpara Road in Madrail and to say that the District Board authorities after considering the petition of objection have abandoned the present alignment and appointed a committee to fix a new alignment. Accordingly a draft notification under section 48 (*1*) of the Land Acquisition Act withdrawing the area from acquisition was sent to this office by the Collector which was forwarded to Government in the Revenue Department with this office memo. No. 124 L.A., dated the 21st August, 1923, for publication.

2. The petitions of objection which have been sent to the Collector will be returned as soon as they are received back.

Vacancies in different courts in Calcutta.

126. Mr. P. N. GUHA: Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Judicial Department be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

(*i*) the number of gazetted posts, temporary or permanent, that fell vacant in the different courts of Calcutta proper other than the High Court during the last three years; and

(*ii*) their recipients, according to religion?

The Hon'ble Sir ABD-UR-RAHIM: (*i*) and (*ii*) A statement is laid on the Library table, from which it will appear that the total of new names (treating Mr. Khondkar, a Muhammadan, twice—once as Presidency Magistrate and once in the Small Cause Court) is 6 Muhammadans, 2 Christians, 9 Hindus.

Retrenchment in Bakarganj Court of Wards Department.

127. Maulvi FAZLAL KARIM CHOWDHURY: (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Revenue be pleased to state whether there has been any retrenchment in the Court of Wards Department of the district of Bakarganj?

(*b*) If so, how many—

(*i*) Hindu, and

(*ii*) Muhammadan

employees have been retrenched from the various grades of service?

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BUROWAN: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The statement below gives the information:—

Number retrenched in the recent reorganisation of the staff.

Class of Officers.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Total.
Circle Officers ..	2	..	2
Orderlies of Circle Officers	3	..	3
Tahsil mohurrirs ..	9	2	11
Peons	3	12	15
GRAND TOTAL ..	17	14	31

Proportion of Muhammadans in Public Works Department.

128. Maulvi FAZLAL KARIM CHOWDHURY: Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Public Works be pleased to state how far effect has been given to the Government circular of 1914, fixing the proportion of Muhammadans at one-third of the total number of employees in the Public Works Department?

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: The percentage of Muhammadans in the Public Works Department in 1914 was 4·17. Effect has been given to the Government circular of 1914 as far as possible and the percentage of Muhammadans is now 12·65. Endeavours are being made to bring up the percentage to 33⅓ per cent. of the total number of employees.

Inspector-General of Registration.

129. Babu KHAGENDRA NATH GANGULY: (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the term of service of the present Inspector-General of Registration expires in the current month of February?

(*b*) Is it a fact that the pay of the post of the Inspector-General of Registration has been fixed by the Government at Rs. 800 rising to Rs. 1,000?

(*c*) Is it a fact that Government have selected the present incumbent to continue to work as the Inspector-General of Registration and that he has agreed to work as such on a reduced salary of Rs. 1,000 after his retirement?

(*d*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state the reason which led the Government to reappoint a retiring officer on the maximum pay?

(*e*) Is the Hon'ble the Minister aware that experienced officers from the Provincial Executive Service can be had on Rs. 800?

(*f*) Has the attention of the Hon'ble the Minister been drawn to the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee regarding the appointment of a Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Registration from the Department itself?

(*g*) If so, will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state whether it is in the contemplation of the Government to give effect to the said recommendation?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq): (*a*) No. His present tenure of office expired last month, but it has been decided that he should continue to hold the post for a further limited period.

(*b*) Government have decided that when the present Inspector-General of Registration finally vacates the post, the pay of his successor will be Rs. 1,000—50—1,250 with Calcutta House Allowance.

(*c*) No. He will not retire but will continue to hold the post on the same terms as at present.

(*d*) The question does not arise.

(*e*) Government consider that a pay of Rs. 1,000—50—1,250 is necessary to secure a suitable officer.

(*f*) Yes.

(*g*) The matter is under consideration.

Nomination to Assam-Bengal Railway Advisory Board.

130. Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Commerce be pleased to state when the Government are going to appoint two members from the Bengal Legislative Council to the Assam-Bengal Railway Advisory Board?

(*b*) Will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state the procedure that would be followed in making the appointments?

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of COMMERCE (the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald): (*a*) The members have already been appointed and their names communicated to the Agent of the Assam-Bengal Railway.

(*b*) The members are nominated by the Government of Bengal from the members of the Bengal Legislative Council.

At 3 P.M. the Secretary to the Council announced to the Hon'ble the President that His Excellency the Governor was without.

The Hon'ble the President then left his seat on the dais and met His Excellency at the head of the staircase. His Excellency then entered the Chamber with the Hon'ble the President, and, at the request of the Hon'ble the President, took his seat in the Presidential Chair, the Hon'ble the President being seated on His Excellency's right.

His Excellency the Governor's address.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR of BENGAL (the Earl of Lytton): GENTLEMEN,—I must begin by apologising for coming to address the Council without giving you previous notice of my intention to do so.

My reason is that it was reported to me only this morning that there was much uncertainty in the minds of many members as to the constitutional issues involved in the discussions which begin this afternoon.

I was told it would be helpful if I could make this clear. Therefore at very short notice to myself, as well as to you, I have come here to state, as clearly as I can, the legal or constitutional position as I understand it.

There is a section of this Council which for reasons of policy desires, if possible, to reject *in toto* the budget proposals of Government.

I have not come here to express any opinion as to the merits or demerits of that policy. That is entirely a matter for you to decide. But I am anxious that when you vote, you should be in no uncertainty as to what the consequences of your vote will be.

There is an impression in the minds of some that the only effect of throwing out the budget will be to force me to take over charge of the Transferred Departments and to substitute undisguised autocracy for the much criticized Diarchy.

Whether Diarchy is good or bad, whether or not Diarchy in fact exists in Bengal to-day—whether autocracy would be better than Diarchy—all these things it is not my purpose to discuss. I have not come here to make a speech nor to employ a single argument. I have only come to state what will, or rather I should say what can, happen if the budget is rejected.

The first thing that would happen would be not only would the present Ministers have to resign, but no other Ministers could be appointed in their place because there would be no funds from which to pay their salaries.

I should then have to declare an emergency to have arisen in which it was not possible for me to appoint any Ministers, and by virtue of the Transferred Subjects (temporary administration) Rules take charge myself of the Transferred Departments. So far, I think, the position is generally understood, for this has already taken place in the Central Provinces. What I think is not generally understood is what will be the conditions under which the various departments of Government will be administered when that stage is reached.

The entire budget having been rejected, no expenditure can be incurred except on my authority. In so far as any discretion is left to me I cannot, of course, tell you in advance how I may exercise that discretion. I have not come to tell you what I am going to do, but what I can do. I am only going to tell you what my powers are.

First, then, in regard to Reserved Subjects I have power to restore every single grant in the budget which has been rejected. Whether I shall exercise that power or not and how I shall exercise it, is entirely within my discretion; but I have the *power* to restore them all. No interest, therefore, on the reserved side of Government need suffer by the rejection of the budget.

With regard to the Transferred Subjects, however, I have no power, whatever my wishes may be, to restore a single grant. Even though I may be temporarily in charge of the Transferred Departments, they do not thereby become Reserved Departments, and my power of certifying does not apply to them.

My power, therefore, of providing funds for these departments is limited by section 72D, sub-section 2, proviso (*b*) of the Government of India Act, 1919, which says—

> The Governor shall have power in case of emergency to authorize such expenditure as may be in his opinion necessary for the safety and tranquillity of the province or for the carrying on of any department.

This proviso is not limited to Reserved Subjects, and the power of authorizing expenditure may, therefore, be exercised in respect of any

department of Government; but it is limited by the two considerations specified, namely, that the expenditure must be necessary "for the safety and tranquillity of the province," or for "carrying on a department."

Here again, I have certain powers within my discretion; but whereas in the case of Reserved Subjects I have power to restore everything, in the case of Transferred Subjects I can "restore" nothing, though I can "authorize" expenditure within very strict limits.

That being the law, as I understand it, under which I have to act, I want the Council to understand exactly what will happen.

I can, if I so desire, authorize expenditure "for the carrying on of any department"—that is to say, I can provide funds for all the Services, for all the departments and institutions of Government, such as the Presidency General Hospital, the Medical College and Hospital, the Mitford Hospital at Dacca and the medical schools in Calcutta, Dacca and Burdwan, the Government colleges, the Government farms and all provincialized institutions in the mufassal. These institutions could be provided, if I so desire, with the salaries of their staff and the bare necessities of their existence, but nothing more. I could provide nothing for their expansion or improvement.

It will not be in my power, whether I wish it or not, to do more than this. Government contributions to all aided institutions would at once lapse. No loans, no grants-in-aid, could be "authorized" by me. Both the Universities at Calcutta and Dacca would be deprived of all Government assistance, and the Dacca University, being without any other sources of revenue, would have to close down at once.

Government aid to all local institutions would cease.

Eighteen lakhs to local bodies for primary education would be withdrawn.

Five lakhs of loans to municipalities and district boards would cease.

Nineteen lakhs to municipalities and district boards for public health and water-supply, and three lakhs of grants to hospitals and dispensaries would also be lost. These are the larger items there are other smaller ones as well; but, generally speaking, the nation-building departments would be completely starved and no Government assistance of any kind could be given in mufassal districts.

That, gentlemen, is the position you would create if you reject the budget *in toto*, and that position would continue so long as the Legislative Council refused supplies to the Government. The autocracy you would create would apply solely to the Reserved Departments of Government, and those departments would not, of necessity, suffer by your action.

Education, public health, medical relief, agriculture and industries would, on the other hand, be deprived of all assistance from Government. They would be starved and crippled, and a serious injury would

be inflicted not on the Government, which would remain unaffected, but upon the people whose interests you are here to represent.

It may be thought, perhaps, that Government would not dare to face such a situation and would make any concessions rather than allow it to continue. Let there be no illusions on this point—my Government would not be embarrassed by such a situation which was not of our creation, and from which we would in no way suffer, while it lasted. Those who brought it about would have to justify their action as best they may to those whom they represent, and the final decision in the matter would rest with the constituencies which will be vitally affected by the consequences.

Gentlemen, I have stated the constitutional position and I leave you to decide upon the issues before you. I would ask you to bear in mind, even when voting upon individual items, the main issue which will underlie all your discussions, namely, whether it is better in the interests of those whom you represent to provide funds for the carrying on of the administration and by influencing the personnel of the Ministers to secure the spending of those funds according to your wishes; or by rejecting the whole budget to deprive such Government as will be left of any power to help the matters in which you and your constituents are chiefly interested.

His Excellency the Governor then left the Chamber, preceded by the Hon'ble the President.

Procedure regarding discussion of demands for grants.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order! Members will have studied the papers circulated yesterday in which details are given of the allotment of time authorized by His Excellency the Governor for the discussion of the demands for grants. The procedure which I shall adopt in connection with each grant, and which was adopted also last year, is as follows:—

When the limit of time has been reached a bell will be rung. All amendments in connection with that demand which have not been reached will then automatically lapse and the demand for the grant will be put forthwith, together with any amendment which may at the moment be under consideration. Under rule 29(2) (section 90 at page 207 of the Manual) it is incumbent upon the President as soon as the maximum limit of time for discussion of any one demand is reached, forthwith to put every question necessary to dispose of the demand under discussion. The only question necessary to dispose of a particular demand is the demand itself or the demand as already

amended, as the case may be, together with any motion which may be at the moment under consideration. This is the accepted Parliamentary interpretation of the House of Commons' Standing Order upon which the Council's rule is based.

The Council will sit to-day and to-morrow until the six hours allotted to "5.—Land Revenue" have expired, and I shall then put the main question, together, as I have said, with any amendment which may at the moment be under consideration. I shall then take up "No. 6.—Excise," to which two hours have been allotted. If the item of Land Revenue is finally disposed of before the expiry of the six hours allotted to that head, I shall at once proceed to take up Excise, to which, as I have already stated, two hours have been allotted.

Members are also reminded that on the last day of the allotted days, viz., April 3rd, at 5 o'clock, all amendments relating to any of the demands for grants which have not been reached will lapse automatically on the same principle, and the main question in connection with each remaining grant will then alone be put by me from the Chair. The putting of the main question will dispose of that question and of all outstanding motions in connection with that particular demand. This, again, is in strict accordance with the accepted Parliamentary practice.

For the convenience of the many new members of the Council, I take this opportunity of adding that the amendments which have been placed upon the paper with regard to each head of the budget will be taken in the order in which they appear upon that paper, and I can permit no deviation from this rule, although of course any member who has moved an amendment is at liberty to ask the leave of the House to withdraw that amendment. This procedure is strictly in accordance with the injunctions contained in statutory rule 30 [section 91(*f*) of the Manual], and I may observe that the rule itself is based upon a written resolution of the House of Commons which has been in force for over half a century. When once the question has been proposed from the Chair for a reduction of the whole vote, no motion is permissible for the omission or reduction of any item in that vote.

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of FINANCE (the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald): I beg to lay on the table a memorandum giving the up-to-date position on the basis of the past 11 months' figures. There are two misprints in this paper. In the revised estimate under the head "V.—Land Revenue" the figure Rs. 3,05,000 is a mistake for Rs. 3,05,50,000. In the revised estimate for 1923-24 against Receipts, the figure should be Rs. 10,15,01,000 instead of Rs. 0,15,01,000. The position is slightly different from what it was before owing to receipts under the Amusements Tax being lower than was expected, and the result is that we have had to draw on our balances to the extent of about 3 lakhs.

Memorandum by the Government of Bengal, Finance Department (Finance,) dated the 18th March 1924.

The following corrections have been made in the revised estimate for 1923-24 and in the budget estimate for 1924-25 in continuation of the memorandum, dated the 12th March, 1924, showing the corrections made in the expenditure estimate for 1924-25:—

Financial Statement.

REVISED ESTIMATE, 1923-24.

Revenue.

On the basis of ten months' actuals the revised estimate under the head "V.—Land Revenue" was fixed at Rs. 3,05,50,000. The eleven months' preliminary actuals, which are available now, indicate that the recoveries on account of survey and settlement charges and the receipts for the improvement of Government estates will be higher than was anticipated, so the revised estimate has been raised to Rs 3,07,00,000.

Considering the preliminary actuals for eleven months, the revised estimates under the heads "VI.—Excise," "VII.—Stamps" and "IXA.—Scheduled Taxes" have been reduced from Rs. 2,10,00 000, Rs. 3,20,00,000 and Rs. 32,00,000, respectively, to Rs. 2,00,00,000, to Rs. 3,17,00,000 and Rs. 25,00,000. The limit of deposits lapsing to Government having been raised from Re. 1 to Rs. 5 from this year, an additional revenue of Rs. 2,50,000 is estimated from this source. The revised estimate under the head "XXXV.—Miscellaneous" has therefore been raised from Rs. 14,13,000 to Rs 16,63,000

BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR 1924-25.

The budget estimate under the head "IXA.—Scheduled Taxes" has been reduced to Rs. 25,00,000 on the basis of the revised estimate for this year. For reasons given above, the estimate under the head "XXXV —Miscellaneous" has been raised from Rs. 12,46,000 to Rs. 14,16,000.

The result of the changes is shown below:—

	Budget Estimate, 1923-24.	Revised Estimate, 1923-24.	Budget Estimate 1924-25.
	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
Opening balance	60,83,000	90,92,000	1,14,73,000
Receipts	10,20,18,000	10,15,01,000	10,26,98,000
Recoveries of Provincial loans	12,56,000	11,47,000	10,39,000
Loans from the Central Government ..	....	1,61,000	....
Famine Insurance Fund	1,75,000	1,75,000	1,90,000
Total	10,95,32,000	11,20,76,000	11,54,00,000
Expenditure from ordinary revenue ..	10,14,65,000	9,86,78,000	10,30,97,000
Repayment of loans taken from the Central Government	4,35,000	4,36,000	4,64,000
Payment of loans by local Government ..	11,84,000	9,79,000	9,59,000
Expenditure out of loans grant	2,50,000	8,11,000	2,96,000
Total	10,33,34,000	10,06,03,000	10,42,24,000
Closing balance	61,98,000	1,14,73,000	1,11,76,000

The Budget of the Government of Bengal, 1924-25.

Demands for Grants.

5.—Land Revenue.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I move that a sum of Rs. 33,66,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "5.—Land Revenue (Reserved)."

I shall now turn to the general aspects of my own budget. I will not trouble the House with the details of retrenchments. So far as I can calculate, we have managed in the Revenue Department to retrench something over 2 lakhs of rupees, which, in a revenue-producing department where mistaken economies might lead to reduction of revenue, is, I think, quite satisfactory. With these retrenchments it might be expected that my Land Revenue and Forest budgets for next year would work out at less than the budget for the present year, but now that there has been some slackening of the financial ropes by which we have hitherto been bound, I should have been failing in my duty as Member in charge of the important revenue-producing departments of Revenue and Forests, if I had not had ready schemes for the improvement, eventual or immediate, of the revenues of the province, with which I am concerned, and if I had not been able to get provision made for them in the budget. I do not therefore apologize for exceeding last year's budget. On the contrary, I am only too glad to be able to do so, not only because the schemes entered will result in some improvement of the revenues of the province but because—subject to the shadow of that sword of Damocles of provincial contribution to the Government of India always hanging over us—it is a sure indication of the improvement of the financial position of the province and should in future provide more money to spend on such departments as we call the nation-building departments. Such being the case, a note of warning from me to the effect that if the Council restricts my expenditure, it runs a risk of endangering revenue, is surely unnecessary. If you want more money for the nation-building departments, you must be prepared to treat my departments well. Of course, you may say this does not apply to various oddments in my budget and in particular to the ordinary Survey and Settlement budget, omitting the items for resettlement of land revenue, and of course I freely admit that it does not directly apply, but even this must in the end lead to economies in administration owing to the existence of a settled record and an accurate map which will form the basis of all proceedings regarding land in the future. However that may be, the departments which I control are in the main revenue-producing, and it must therefore be my policy to try and increase the revenues of the province so far as possible, and so far as funds permit. This policy I have been able to give effect to in a small measure by insertion of certain important schemes in the budget.

First and foremost is an extension of the programme for the colonization of the areas in the Sundarbans of Bakarganj and the 24-Parganas, and the other day when the general discussion on the budget took place, I was pleased to learn from one speaker that our efforts in this direction had been appreciated. We have been informed that we are losing money because we are not spending sufficient money on colonization and the local officers have been growing restive in the interests of Government, seeing so much revenue going to waste because Government have not provided the necessary money for the initial work of colonization.

We have therefore provided this year almost a lakh extra on this account. This is the only new thing of importance in the Government Estates' budget, though you cannot properly call the extension of the colonization programme a new scheme.

The next main revenue-producing new item is the survey and settlement and revision of the revenue of the Chittagong Government estates. The commencement of this settlement is long overdue, and therefore we have provided 2 lakhs in the budget for its commencement in 1924-25. The House will recollect that we had Rs. 30,000 in this year's budget for an experimental revision in order to ascertain how much it was going to cost, whether a new map was necessary or not, and whether the permanently-settled area could be omitted or not. That experiment is still going on; therefore, I am unable to say anything about its results, but we cannot wait for the report before making the necessary provision in the budget. About 3 lakhs of the increase over this year's Land Revenue budget is thus accounted for. The remainder of the excess is mainly due to the excess required for carrying on the sanctioned programme of the Settlement Department. For each operation, Murshidabad, Birbhum, and Khulna, there is a sanctioned programme. We are advised that this year the estimate has been very carefully prepared. I need not go into further details, as I shall have to say something on each motion for reduction as it comes up. I do not wish to speak at length at the present moment on the motion for the total refusal of the grant for the Revenue Department, but I do not think that in introducing the demand, I should sound a note of warning that the total refusal of the Revenue budget would so far affect the transferred departments as to cripple their activities for those works of utility which appear to all of us to be, and which are, so essential for the improvement of the conditions of the province.

In conclusion, so far as the Revenue Department budget is concerned, I am happy to say that in this, the last year of my charge, perhaps the last few weeks or days of my charge, I have been able to produce a budget which will go some way, however slight, to improve the revenues of the province.

The following motions were then called but not moved:—

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 43,000 under the head '5A.—Land Revenue—Charges of Administration—General Establishment—Land Acquisition Officers,' be refused."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 43,000 under the head "5.—Land Revenue, Detailed Account No. 5 A, for the salaries of Land Acquisition Officers, be reduced by Rs. 24,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 20,000 under the head '5 A.—Land Revenue—Charges of Administration—Land Acquisition Establishment, Travelling Allowances,' be reduced by Rs. 10,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 20,000 under the head '5 A.—Land Acquisition Establishment—Travelling Allowances,' be reduced by Rs. 5,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 2,280 under the head '5 A.—Land Acquisition—Establishment—House Rent and other allowances,' be reduced by Rs. 1,280."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 9,500 under the head '5 A.—Charges of Administration—Land Acquisition Establishment—Office Expenses and Miscellaneous,' be reduced by Rs. 4,300."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 31,636 under the head '5 A.—Charges of Administration—Certificate Establishment—Temporary Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 16,636."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 31,636 under the head '5 A.—Certificate Establishment—Temporary Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 10,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 734 under the head '5 A.—Certificate Establishment—House Rent and other allowances,' be reduced by Rs. 500."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,296 under the head '5 A.—Certificate Establishment—Office expenses, etc.,' be reduced by Rs. 648."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 86,000 under the head '5 A.—Land Revenue—Charges of Administration—General Establishment—Land Acquisition and Certificate Establishments,' be refused."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 27,300 under the head '5 A.—Partition Establishment—Deputy and Sub-Deputy Collector,' be reduced Rs. 7,300."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 27,300 under the head '5 A.—Partition Establishment—Pay of Deputy and Sub-Deputy Collectors,' be reduced by Rs. 2,300."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 21,395 under the head '5 A.—Partition Establishment—Temporary Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 3,395."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 6,000 under the head '5 A.—Partition Establishment—Travelling Allowances,' be reduced by Rs. 2,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 6,000 under the head '5 A.—Partition Establishment—Travelling Allowances,' be reduced by Rs. 1,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: 'That the demand of Rs. 28,710 under the head '5 A.—Partition Establishment—Office Expenses and Miscellaneous,' be reduced by Rs. 8,710."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 33,000 under the head '5A.—Land Revenue—Charges of Administration—Record Room Establishment' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 30,000 under the head '5 A.—Land Revenue—Charges of Administration—Wards' Estate Establishment,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 69,522 under the head '5A.—Kanungo Establishment—Executive Subordinates,' be reduced by Rs. 2,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,08,200 under the head '5A.—Land Revenue—Charges of Administration—Kanungo Establishment' be refused."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 18,125 under the head '5A.—Road Cess Valuation and Revaluation Establishment—Deputy and Sub-Deputy Collectors,' be reduced by Rs. 7,125."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 1,17,326 under the head '5A.—Road Cess, Valuation and Revaluation—Establishment—Temporary Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 60,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 5,664 under the head '5A.—Road Cess, Valuation and Revaluation—Establishment—Travelling Allowance,' be reduced by Rs. 4,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 5,664 under the head '5A.—Road Cess, Valuation and Revaluation establishment allowances, etc.,' be reduced by Rs. 2,664."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 26,216 under the head '5A.—Road Cess, Valuation and Revaluation—Establishment—Office Expenses and Miscellaneous,' be reduced by Rs. 16,216."

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 2,37,600 under the head '5A.—Land Revenue—Charges of Administration,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA and Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 2,37,600 under the head '5.—Land Revenue, Detailed Account No. 5A.—Charges of Administration,' be reduced by Rs. 36,000."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 2,37,600 under the head '5A.—Charges of Administration,' be reduced by Rs. 20,000."

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 81,763 under the head '5B.—Management of Government Estates, Collection of Revenue—Deputy and Sub-Deputy Collectors,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 81,763 under the head '5B.—Collection of revenue—pay of Deputy and Sub-Deputy Collectors,' be reduced by Rs. 21,763."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 81,763 under the head '5.—Land Revenue, Detailed Account No. 5B for the salaries of Deputy and Sub-Deputy Collectors,' be reduced by Rs. 13,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 81,763 under the head '5B.—Collection of Revenue—Deputy and Sub-Deputy Collectors,' be reduced by Rs. 10,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 43,752 under the head '5B.—Management of Government Estates—Collection of Revenue—Executive Subordinates,' be refused."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 31,028 under the head '5B.—Collection of Revenue—Temporary Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 15,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 40,000 for travelling allowances under the head '5B.—Collection of Revenue,' be reduced by Rs. 4,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 56,422 under the head '5B.—Collection of Revenue—Office Expenses and Miscellaneous,' be reduced by Rs. 20,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 56,422 under the head '5B.—Collection of Revenue—Office Expenses and Miscellaneous,' be reduced by Rs. 10,000."

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 5,04,000 under the head '5B.—Management of Government Estates—Collection of Revenue,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 5,04,000 under the head '5B.—Collection of Revenue,' be reduced by Rs. 40,000."

Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: "That the demand for Rs. 1,44,000 under the head '5B. Land Revenue—Management of Government Estates—Outlay on Improvement' for colonization work in the Bakarganj and the 24-Parganas Sundarbans for the year 1924-25, be refused."

Babu KHAGENDRA NATH CANGULY: "That the demand for Rs. 1,44,000 for colonization scheme in the Sundarbans in Bakarganj and 24-Parganas under the head '5B.—Land Revenue—Management of Government Estates,' be reduced by Rs. 94,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 2,81,000 under the head '5B.—Management of Government Estates—Outlay on Improvements,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 21,81,000 under the head '5B.—Land Revenue—Outlay on Improvements,' be reduced by Rs. 1,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 7,85,000 under the head '5B.—Management of Government Estates,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 7,85,000 under the head '5B.—Management of Government Estates,' be reduced by Rs. 80,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 7,85,000 under the head '5B.—Land Revenue—Management of Government Estates,' be reduced by Rs. 67,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,734 for travelling allowance under the head '5C.—Survey and Settlement,—Controlling Office,' be reduced by Rs. 1,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 3,500 for contribution to the Survey of India under the head '5C.—Survey and Settlement,' be refused."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 7,017 under the head '5C.—Survey and Settlement—Controlling Office,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 8,787 under the head '5C.—Survey and Settlement—Drawing Office—Gazetted Officers,' be reduced by Rs. 1,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 3,150, under the head '5C.—Survey and Settlement—Drawing Office—House rent and other allowances,' be reduced by Rs. 500."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 11,248 under the head '5C.—Survey and Settlement—Drawing Office share of the cost of the controlling office,' be reduced by Rs. 3,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 82,391, under the head '5C.—Survey and Settlement—Drawing Office,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,72,858, under the head '5C.—Survey and Settlement—Pay of other Gazetted Officers,' be reduced by Rs. 70,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 65,190 under the head '5C.—Major Settlement Operations—Travelling Allowance,' be reduced by Rs. 10,000."

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 29,980 under the head '5C.—Survey and Settlement—Major Settlement Operations—House rent and other allowances,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 7,75,845 for job work under the head '5C.—Settlement Operations,' be reduced by Rs. 75,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 38,500 for purchase of tents, stoves, etc., under the head '5C.—Major Settlement Operations,' be reduced by Rs. 20,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 11,205 under the head '5C.—Major Settlement Operations—Rents, rates and taxes,' be reduced by Rs. 5,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,37,430 for office expenses and miscellaneous, under the head '5C.—Major Settlement Operations,' be reduced by Rs. 40,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 16,33,714 under the head '5C.—Major Settlement Operations,' be refused."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 16,33,714 under the head '5C.—Survey and Settlement—Major Settlement Operations,' be reduced by Rs. 2,00,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 6,250 under the head '5C.—Minor Settlement Operations—Pay of Settlement and Assistant Settlement Officers,' be reduced by Rs. 1,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 2,72,164, under the head '5C.—Minor Settlement Operations,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 2,72,164, under the head '5C.—Minor Settlement Operations,' be reduced by Rs. 2,00,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,49,423, under the head '5C.—Major Survey Operations,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,49,423, under the head '5C.—Major Survey Operations,' be reduced by Rs. 2,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 21,61,000 under the head '5C.—Survey and Settlements,' be refused."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 21,61,000 under the head '5.—Land Revenue, Detailed Account No. 5C,' be reduced by Rs. 5,00,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DUTTA: "That the demand of Rs. 21,61,000 under the head '5C.—Survey and Settlement,' be reduced by Rs. 3,10,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, Babu SATYENDRA CHAHRDA MITRA, and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 54,400 under the head '5D.—Land Revenue—Land Records' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 35,900 under the head '5D.—Land Revenue—Land Records—District Charges,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 54,400 under the head '5D.—Land Revenue—Land Records,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,13,000 under the head '5E.—Land Revenue—Compensation,' be refused."

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: I move that the demand of Rs. 33,66,000 under the head "5.—Land Revenue" be refused."

In doing so, I wish to state, with all the sincerity that I am capable of, that my motion was framed after careful, anxious and serious consideration. The members of my party, whether they be in this Council or in the Assembly or in any other provincial Council, have invariably had to bear the sneer levelled at them by the members of the Government, and those who support them, that resolutions refusing grants as a whole are frivolous and mischievous, and do not in the slightest way help the people towards the goal of swaraj. Even this afternoon His Excellency the Governor of Bengal, spoke in the same strain——

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Sen Gupta, I do not know what you mean by "in the same strain." You spoke of a sneer in your last sentence and then you said His Excellency spoke in the same strain. His Excellency must be spoken of respectfully.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: His Excellency said that this policy of refusing grants as a whole will not in the slightest way help to the attainment of swaraj. It is time that the Government——

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I rise to a point of order. His Excellency mentioned nothing about swaraj; he only mentioned constitutional issues.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: It is time that the Government realises that we are in earnest, and that the motion which I am moving to-day is not moved in a light-hearted manner but in accordance with our duty towards the people and the electorate which have sent us here. The electorate of Bengal have in no uncertain manner demanded full responsible government for Bengal and for India. The members of my party

fought the recent elections on the issue—"Should we allow diarchy to continue and live or should we kill it?" The answer has been given by the return of our candidates to the Council and to the Assembly in large numbers and by huge majorities. The demands of the people, through their representatives present in the Assembly, were made and refused. The suggestion for a round table conference was likewise definitely turned down. The Government here and in England are determined in their attitude to stifle the legitimate aspirations of our countrymen, and the only method left to us is to bring home to the Government that this House will not be a party to the farce of diarchy any longer, by their refusal of supplies. It has been argued that the present system of Government is intended ultimately to lead us to Home Rule, that it has already given us large powers in the Legislature. One grows quite tired of refuting this claim made by the Government. The present Reforms have given us no such power. They are a sham and a hollow mockery. We have proofs of it—of the true nature of the Reforms—in the Assembly as well as in this Council. Only in January last three resolutions of great importance for the release of political prisoners and for the repeal of certain repressive laws were passed by this House by an overwhelming majority. Has the Government taken any notice of those resolutions or of the wishes of the majority of this House as expressed in those resolutions? Yes, notice has been taken of them. The Government has put up a notice in the lobby of this House practically saying that it considered the resolutions not worth the paper on which they were written. What the Government really mean is this—what the Reforms really mean is this—that if we members of this House like good boys agree with the views expressed by the bureaucracy, then and then only we are fit, and we are working the Reforms in the true spirit. But if we members of the Council—if this House does not agree with the bureaucracy—the House is unfit, the members of the House have no idea of real responsibility. The only test of fitness is the capacity of the members of this House completely to merge themselves in the wishes and in the will of the bureaucracy. The Government have not only refused to act up to the wishes of the House but have deliberately flouted the opinion of the majority of the members of this Council. Since the passing of the resolution for the release of the prisoners who are detained without trial, respectable Bengalis have been arrested and thrown into prison without trial in direct defiance of the wishes of this Council. Sir, the Legislature has no control over the personnel of the service for which these demands are asked. The House cannot control the police. Can we dismiss a single police officer if we find him corrupt? Can we dismiss, remove or suspend any ministerial officer or any officer belonging to the Civil Service or any other Imperial Service if we find him corrupt and absolutely dishonest? Have we any power to reduce the salaries or to regulate the appointments or in any way to control the number of appointments? No, we have no

such power. May I ask if this House has any control over the Hon'ble Member who is asking us to give him the demands? May I ask whether we have any control over the policy of the Hon'ble Member who is asking us to vote him a large sum of money? May I ask whether, if this House disagrees with the policy of the Hon'ble Member who is demanding from us this huge sum of money, we can remove him? No, we cannot do anything of the kind. We do not wish—we do not want—the Government to carry on this farce any longer. We do not wish the Government—to use a very strong expression—to practise this colossal fraud on the civilized world, that the government of the country is carried on with the consent and goodwill of the elected Indian representatives in the Council and in accordance with the public opinion of the country. If the Government want to carry on the administration of the country according to the wishes of the bureaucracy, let them do so, but that should be done without our help and without our consent. The fraud must once for all be exposed, so that it may not be repeated.

I oppose this demand because I say that Government have refused the demands made in the Assembly. I ask this House to throw out this demand because I say the Government have refused to listen to the public opinion of Bengal. I ask this House to throw out this demand because I say that Government have refused to release the political prisoners whom the House wanted them to release. I ask this House to throw out this demand because I say the Legislature—this Council—has no control over the expenditure, nor has it any control over the Hon'ble Member who is asking for the demand. These are the grounds on which I ask that this House should reject this demand.

Before I sit down, may I appeal to the House in the language of our leader, Mr. C. R. Das: "Delhi has rallied, C.P. has done its duty. Will Bengal fail? The councillors are to reply by their votes on the budget. How can the nation's condemnation of the present system of government be clearly, emphatically and effectively expressed? It is by rejecting the demands for grants in their entirety. Here there is no question of the merits of this or that item, but the supreme question, the only question, the question of questions is—Should diarchy live a moment longer? Should the people's wishes—the Council's wishes—be flouted as they are being flouted?" Let Bengal's representatives in this Council reply.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: In rising to support the motion moved by my friend Mr. J. M. Sen Gupta, I will not add any argument to what has already been expressed by him.

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI: I simply support this motion.

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: I support this motion.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: In supporting the resolution of my friend, Mr. Sen Gupta, I am of the same opinion with him that so long as the diarchy is not amenable to the wishes of the people, no money should be provided to this bureaucratic Government to run the Government in the name of the people. Sir, everyone present here knows that after we had passed the resolutions to release the political prisoners and other prisoners connected with the non-co-operation movement by huge majorities only about a week ago, a very respectable member of the Bengal Provincial Congress Committee has been arrested under Regulation III of 1818. Sir, the opinion of the elected representatives, not to speak of those who have been nominated, have been flouted by the Government in no uncertain manner. The only reply we can give to this insult is the total rejection of the budget. In this case the demand is for Rs. 33,66,000. Sir, you are a great Parliamentarian yourself; you know that if you want to disapprove of the conduct of the Hon'ble Member who wants the money to be voted, you should reduce his salary. Here in the case of the Hon'ble Member we cannot do so. He has a supreme contempt for all of us here—I mean those elected representatives of the country who belong to the Swarajya and Independent parties. He wants us to vote the money so that he may run the Government in the name of the people. We have heard His Excellency to-day, and he said that he can restore every item in the budget on the Reserved side, but he has got little power over the Transferred side. If that is the view of His Excellency, the Hon'ble Member knows himself that if we throw out the budget it is sure to be restored. In that view of the case I do not understand why he should ask us to vote the money.

Babu Manmatha Nath Roy: In rising to support the motion that has been moved by my friend, Mr. Sen Gupta, on behalf of the Swaraj party, I wish to add a few words. Our action on the present occasion is a legitimate, constitutional and deliberate protest against, and condemnation of, the present constitution and its working. We have been charged with irresponsibility. The charge ought to be exactly the other way. I charge the Government with irresponsibility. The finances are not to be trifled with in utter disregard of the public good and the real interests of the country. This stereotyped budget must go; all possible retrenchments must be effected; public good and not vested interests must be the primary consideration—the paramount consideration in the allocation of the public revenue. The institution of nation-building departments appears to have been a mere pretence for the imposition of additional taxes. The whole of the additional revenue should be utilized for the purpose for which the new taxes were imposed. I charge the Government with non-co-operation. The Government has never worked the Reforms in the proper spirit. It has flouted public opinion, expressed by an overwhelming majority of

the elected members in this Council. May I ask if this is co-operation or non-co-operation with the people? We condemn the present system of Government. It is not responsible government. It is only a sorry mockery of it. Ours is a policy not of wrecking, not of obstruction, not of destruction, but of construction. We want the Government to realize their responsibilities, to co-operate with us, and to respond to us: we want to have a real system of responsible government and we want to have the last word in the budget. It is no use placing the budget before us; we regard it as an insult to be asked to have to do anything with the budget, when, notwithstanding our adverse vote, the budget may be restored by certification. We are all deeply grateful to His Excellency the Governor for the trouble which he took in coming to this House this afternoon and drawing before us a lurid picture of the woeful consequences to the constituencies by the rejection of the budget. I wish His Excellency's apprehensions were well-founded. It seems to me that the nation-building departments have nothing to gain if the budget is passed and they have nothing to lose if the budget is thrown out. Did we not hear two ex-Ministers who are members of the present Council relating their own experiences and saying the other day that the Government paid no heed to the crying needs of the province? Did not Mr. G. S. Dutt the other day say that so far as medical relief and public health were concerned, Government had made an advance in principle but not in practice?

Mr. C. S. DUTT: I said we have made a distinct advance in principle if not so much in figures. I did not say "in practice."

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: I do not remember the exact words, but that does not change the meaning.

Mr. C. S. DUTT: I also pointed out that we had made an advance on the figures because in our next year's budget Rs. 5 lakhs more had been provided than had ever been in the past.

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: Did not the Hon'ble Mr. Fazl-ul Huq only the other day lay the charge of parsimoniousness at the door of the Hon'ble the Finance Member? I repeat that I wish that His Excellency's apprehensions were well-founded. But unfortunately, public good or the interests of the people are not points for consideration in the budget which has now been placed before us. It is a momentous issue before us to-day. If we owe any responsibility to our constituency— to the country which we serve— if we want to justify the confidence reposed in us by our countrymen, if our fitness for self-government is to be proved to a demonstration, our path is clear and our obvious duty is to throw out the budget.

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: On behalf of the Nationalist party I desire to associate myself with Mr. Sen Gupta's motion for total refusal. I think, Sir, I shall be allowed to explain the position

as clearly as I can. Sir, when we sent notice of the different motions standing in our name, we sent them under the impression that the financial propositions detailed in the budget would be discussed as usual and that the demands for grants moved by the Government would be dealt with on their own merits. But, Sir, since then our party has decided—though most reluctantly—that we should refuse to vote supplies for a system of administration which has deliberately refused to respond to the wishes of the Legislature and contemptuously disregarded the clearly expressed wishes of the nation on vital matters affecting the rights and liberties of the people. This Council, Sir, just after assembling, demanded the release of the political prisoners, the release or trial of the détenus under Regulation III of 1818, the repeal of the repressive laws, and last, though not the least, the transferrence of more subjects to popular control, if not full provincial autonomy. This Government, Sir, has been pleased to reject every one of them, and at any rate has not thought fit to recommend any of them for the favourable consideration of the higher authorities. And the higher authorities? Well, Sir, they have either considered it unfit to take any notice of them or have been repeating parrot-like the so-called reasons urged by the local Government—reasons which have been considered hollow and worthless by the overwhelming majority of the elected members of this Council. Even from the highest quarter, Sir, there is no hope of redress—no assurance of any constitutional advance. The situation therefore created by the irresponsible and nonchalant attitude of the authorities here and the absolutely unresponsive attitude of the authorities in England is this: that the political prisoners will continue to be incarcerated in spite of the Royal amnesty—people will continue to be deported without open trial under a century old lawless law—repressive measures unknown to any other civilized country will continue to disfigure the Statute Book and to have unrestricted application at the sweet will of the bureaucracy, and the Reserved departments will continue to be as many in number, as extravagant in expenditure, and as irresponsible in their working as before—in spite of the recommendations of the Legislature to the contrary, in spite of the wishes of the country expressed beyond doubt. Yet we are presented with a budget—considered a worthless body though we are, yet an appearance is made of asking for grants—powers though we have none to really reduce or refuse most of them—absolutely helpless though we are to change the Government policy by an iota, faced as we are with an irremovable executive responsible neither to man in this country nor to God in heaven.

Under the circumstances, Sir, we have come to think that there is but one course left to us to make our grievances felt—one means open to us to maintain the dignity of the Legislature—to preserve the self-respect of the nation—and that is the refusal to vote supplies—repugnant though the policy of wholesale obstruction is to us—the Nationalists. It is well known, Sir, that obstruction formed no part of our previously settled policy—no feature of our preconceived programme.

And if we are going to adopt an apparently obstructive attitude now, it is only because we have been compelled to do so by the exceedingly insulting and uncompromising attitude of the Government and its utter disregard of the people's wishes.

But it is in no destructive spirit—with no idea to make administration impossible—we are going to enter this emphatic protest. We do fully realize, Sir, that within the four corners of the Government of India Act there are ample provisions and powers vested in the head of the administration to frustrate any such design. We fully believe, despite what those who raise the false cry of "Revolution ahead" may say, that the administration of the country will go on as it was going on before the operation of the Act of 1919 with only the mask of a partial responsibility removed. And who will doubt, Sir, that naked autocracy is far more preferable than a masked one? Anything but untruth is certainly welcome.

Why then do we not adopt a policy of partial obstruction? Well, Sir, the answer is obvious. In the first place, we do not believe that it will be consistent to sanction the grants under the Transferred heads —mostly spending departments—and to refuse the demands for grants under the Reserved heads and the earning departments such as "Stamps," "Land Revenue," etc. In the next place, Sir, we are fully conscious that we are really no grantors of demands so far as the Reserved subjects are concerned. Any of us who has read the report of the Joint Committee—anybody who had the privilege to hear Lord Ronaldshay's interpretation of the Governor's power of certification —as a power not confined to extraordinary circumstances but invocable in normal circumstances as often as the Governor likes—and any member who has listened carefully to His Excellency's speech this afternoon, can be under no illusion as regards our position with regard to the Reserved demands.

One therefore who is anxious, Sir, to make the Government realize the emergent situation that has arisen at the present moment out of their autocratic policy and unyielding attitude to the national demands can only do so by refusing to vote supplies under the Transferred heads. It is by going to that length and that length only that we can put the Government on the duty of exercising the emergency powers under the Act—emergency powers which they are only too anxious and eager to use on any pretext whatsoever so far as the repressive laws and the deportations are concerned. You cannot maintain that emergency has arisen only when you choose to deprive people of their rights and liberties and maintain that normal circumstances prevailed when you choose to appropriate their money. No. If emergency has arisen, let it be recognized to have arisen not on information based on the reports of spies and informers but on the clearly expressed verdict of the nation against your present policy and attitude. And if the resolutions of this Council regarding the release of prisoners, the trial of détenus, the repeal of

repressive laws, the transfer of more subjects, be the "dictates of the enemies," and not the "advice of friends"—if the whole nation in the persons of their elected representatives can be accused of "enmity" in spite of Blackstone's famous saying that you cannot accuse a whole nation of sedition—it is certainly not fair, not honest to pretend to present a budget before them and coax or cajole them to sanction the demands for grants. In this view, Sir, I would support the motion for the total refusal of the demand in question.

One word more and I have done. It might be said of course, Sir, that by helping to create an emergent situation with regard to the Transferred departments we shall only be further starving the nation-building departments. It might be so according to a much-advertised liberal constitution and a still more liberal interpretation of it. The country may have to suffer for it for some time. But at the same time, Sir, we realize that no sacrifice will be too great for the nation to have a truly reformed Government with a changed heart and an altered angle of vision.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ spoke in Bengali in support of the motion. His speech translated is as follows :—

Under this head there were certain motions against my name, but I have withdrawn all of them in the hope that I might be permitted to say something on this. Sir, the major portion of the revenue accrues from the poor raiyats who have to toil in the fields incessantly and cannot, in fact, and do not, in fact, know what it means to have two meals a day. On the last occasion when I had put in a motion under this very head for a petty reduction it was not carried on account of the majority of votes on the Government side. Government could have acted prudently if they had only condescended to accept my motion on that occasion. Now that there is a majority on the Side of the Opposition we must not lose this opportunity of refusing his demands under this head *in toto* and wait for the decision of the Government. I commended to your consideration whether it is not beyond the bounds of prudence or reason that the Government should act up to their own, and ignore our protests and remonstrances however sound our logical they might be. It is true that the total refusal of this grant will not meet with the approval of the bulk of our countrymen. I for one would have been the last person to adopt such a procedure, but as our wishes have been disregarded by the Government in the past there is no other alternative left for us at the present moment than to launch upon a policy of destruction and complete obstruction. There is no other way out for us but to refuse the whole demand. Let us wait and see what the Government do.

Mr. PROVASH CHUNDER MITTER: I feel that this House is going to take a very momentous step to-day; and if I rise to warn the

House against this proposed action, I do not do so with any hope that any words of mine or any warning from me will have any effect on my friends opposite. I realise that in coming to a decision they must have thought over the matter—I realise that they are actuated by the best and highest of motives—I realise that it is their patriotism which is at the back of the action which they propose to take; but if I intervene at this stage, I do so lest it be said afterwards that when this momentous decision was taken by the majority of the House there was no Bengali to warn his countrymen against this downward course to which the country is being led. Sir, I have said on another occasion that the inevitable consequence of obstruction is revolution, but I say at the same time that my friends opposite do not intend revolution. If revolution comes they will be its greatest opponents, they will be then, perhaps too late, on the side of law and order. They want freedom through constitutional means. I appreciate that and I respect my friends opposite for their patriotism and love of country, but I say at the same time that they are giving a wrong lead to the country and that the inevitable consequence of obstruction will be revolution. It cannot but be revolution. Obstruction will lead to bitter agitation—bitter agitation amongst a large section of the middle classes in their present condition, when there is so much unemployment and economic distress—owing to a large extent to the aftermath of the great world-war—when the sanitary condition of the country is so bad—when there are so many legitimate grievances—an agitation like the one I apprehend under such conditions will lead to very untoward results. Many of my friends opposite, at any rate the older members, will remember what happened during the swadeshi days. During the swadeshi days, in spite of the fact that the leaders were all for constitutional methods, in spite of the fact that the leaders did not do anything which was not constitutional, some of their followers—I admit a limited few—took to direct action. If that was what happened during the swadeshi agitation in spite of the constitutional methods adopted by the leaders, what will happen in the coming agitation, when the conditions are likely to be far worse? Distress is more acute, public life is more keen, and a larger number of young men have taken to politics. The agitation I apprehend will be far more bitter this time than it was in 1905, 1906, 1907 or 1908. As a result of the bitter agitation on one side and the strong attitude of the Government on the other, I apprehend—not only I apprehend but I am almost certain—that a certain section of my younger countrymen will perhaps be even more impatient than my swaraj friends to attain their end, and this impatience, this short cut to political liberty, will lead to revolutionary movements amongst a certain section, as the experience of other countries tell us. Sir, some of my friends opposite may say that we are so badly off that anything is better than this, that even revolution is, under conditions such as these, more welcome than the tardy methods of constitutional evolution.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: On a point of personal explanation, Sir. None of my party ever said that we would prefer revolution to any other course to gain freedom.

Mr. PROVASH CHUNDER MITTER: I began by saying that my friends opposite do not intend revolution, but I say that by their heedless action they are leading us to it.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: Not we, but the Government is leading to it.

Mr. PROVASH CHUNDER MITTER: Time will show whether you are right or I am right.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: Perhaps both of us are right.

Mr. PROVASH CHUNDER MITTER: I was going to say that if revolution be the consequence, although it is not the intention, we should be warned in time. Every student of the world's history must admit that revolution to gain freedom is an antiquated weapon. The world has learnt its lessons from the French revolution, the Italian revolution, and latterly the Russian revolution; but to-day methods far more superior than revolution or direct action in any shape or form are considered to be the best methods for attainment of liberty. What pains me is this: that my friends opposite, whose public spirit, whose self-sacrifice, whose keen desire to serve their motherland I have always admired, although I have always opposed their methods of work and strongly differed from them about their political outlook—what pains me is that in spite of their splendid self-sacrifice they are leading the country to wrong lines by attempting short cuts. They are crying for the moon. Uplift your people. Make them a better people. [BABU MANMATHA NATH ROY: My people are very good.] I yield to none in my love and admiration for my people, and I may tell Babu Manmatha Nath Roy that I know more of my people than many of my young friends like him. I may tell him that because my people are good, therefore I expect so much from them. Exert your best for the uplift of the people. Make them intellectually stronger—make their economic position better—make them physically stronger—make them spiritually better, and devote all your attention to the betterment of their condition all round. If a larger number of people are better, then self-government will be easier to attain; but to follow this short cut will lead to bitter ends. It will throw us back to the dark ages. One word more and I have done. My friend, Mr. C. R. Das, whom I have always held in great esteem and whom to-day I hold in even higher esteem, has got an undoubted hold over the people, and a man cannot have such a hold over the people but for good reasons. I appeal to him, for his very love of the motherland, not to try for short cuts.

Babu DEBI PROSAD KHAITAN: I have listened with great attention to the speeches that were delivered in support of the motion for throwing out the whole of this item in the budget. The reasons put forward for this refusal are mainly two—the attainment of swaraj as early as possible and, secondly, retaliation against the Government for not having listened to the wishes of this Council, especially in regard to those resolutions which demanded the release of political prisoners and the repeal of repressive laws.

So far as the second point is concerned, viz., indifference of the Government to listen to the expressed wishes of this House, I hope, Sir, that the Members of the Government have shoulders broad enough to defend themselves.

In regard to the demand of swaraj, I am quite at one with my friends opposite that everything needful should be done in the right and proper way, so that swaraj may be attained as soon as possible. But, Sir, unfortunately it is in regard to the methods that I cannot see eye to eye with my friends on the opposite side. My friends honestly and sincerely believe that, by throwing out the budget in its entirety, they would expedite the coming of swaraj. But, Sir, what I feel is that, instead of their expediting the coming of swaraj, it may lead to certain unhappy circumstances which will come into existence in the country and which will go against the interest of the people. Sir, I find that this resolution is supported both by the Swarajist and Nationalist parties. Sir, some months ago, when the Ministership was offered to Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti, the only reason for which he could not accept the Ministry was that he demanded that all the three Ministers should be appointed from his party. [Cries of "Not correct" and "Question".]

Mr. C. R. DAS: Has the hon'ble member any official information on the point?

Babu DEBI PROSAD KHAITAN: No, I am not in the confidence of Government. But my information is that His Excellency wanted to allow him to nominate one and himself to appoint one. Whatever the circumstances may be, this fact cannot be disputed that, on certain conditions, Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti, the leader of the Nationalist party, was prepared to accept the Ministry. If he had accepted the Ministry, could the Nationalist party have been a party to the refusal of the whole budget? It would not have been necessary to throw out the whole budget. What difference does it make whether the Ministers are selected from one party or the other? So far as the constitutional principle is concerned, it remains the same. Sir, if the whole budget is thrown out, what will be the position? The people of the province have still to go on paying revenue to the Government. But this Council will not vote that this money, which is realised by the Government

from the people, should be spent for their benefit. What is it that the people will do? I ask my friends of the Swarajya party whether they are prepared to launch mass civil disobedience, to ask the people to refuse paying taxes which the Government would try to realise from them? [Cries of "Irrelevant".] My friends consider that it is irrelevant, but I do not consider it to be so. It is the question of questions and is of great importance. After the budget is thrown out, what will be the position? Are the people going to pay taxes or not? If the budget is thrown out, what is the method that my friends on the opposite side suggest the Government to adopt in order that the administration of the country may be carried on to the best interest of the people? I believe—and my friends of both the parties believe—that if the budget is thrown out, Government will be forced to restore the budget as a whole. We have this afternoon heard from His Excellency the Governor that, although the Reserved Side of the Government, as constituted, will be restored, as far as the Transferred side——

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: His Excellency never said that he would restore the Reserved side of the budget. His Excellency simply informed the House of the power which His Excellency has got under the Government of India Act.

Babu DEBI PROSAD KHAITAN: I stand corrected, Sir. I mean that the budget on the Reserved side can be restored, but so far as the Transferred side is concerned, His Excellency has made it clear that he has no power to restore the whole of the budget. If the whole of the budget, so far as the Transferred side is concerned, is not restored, the result can more easily be imagined than described. The interest of the people which you and I have been sent here to look after will be jeopardized; and what the people want will not be done. What do the people want? They want food, they want health, they want education. These are the three chief things which have to be administered by the popular Ministers. If money is not given to them, education will certainly suffer, agriculture and industries must starve from which people earn money wherewith to buy food and clothing, and without this help men cannot save themselves from death and illness. If the Governor under the Government of India Act has not the power to restore grants or even to provide money wherewith to advance these departments, what will be the condition of the people? They cannot progress —they cannot improve. Sir, my friends on the other side may say that this is the only weapon that we have in our hands. Sir, I feel that we can still mark time and see what the Labour party can do for us. Only yesterday I received a letter from a prominent member of the Labour party whose name I do not want to disclose, but who has written to me to this effect: "Government have gone as far as they dare and having regard to the present voting power in the House of Commons, they are entirely in sympathy with our point of view, but

they find themselves in difficulty when they are faced with conflicting expressions of opinion cabled from India. If the Government can get a united Indian co-operation in the working of the Assembly and Councils, they are prepared, whenever they will come into power, to go ahead with constitutional reforms very quickly." My friends, Mr. C. R. Das and Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti, whose follower I was some years ago, have taught me to believe in the good wishes of the Labour party towards India. It is meet therefore that we should give the Labour party some breathing time within which they could do something for our country. I know that similar letters have been received from prominent members of the Labour party by other leaders of this country. The Indian Legislative Assembly, after throwing out some items in the budget in order to impress upon the Government and the people of England what the demand of the country is, have abstained from voting down other items in the budget. [A voice: But they have thrown out the Finance Bill.] So far as the intentions of the people are concerned, they have been sufficiently expressed in the Indian Legislative Assembly in which the representatives of Bengal took an active part.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: Is the hon'ble member aware that they have thrown out the entire Finance Bill?

Babu DEBI PROSAD KHAITAN: There is no reason why my friend should think that he is the only gentleman who reads newspapers in the morning. But may I, for his information, inform him that there is some difference between the budget and the Finance Bill? A different situation may arise if the Government of this province brings forward a Finance Bill. In that case we would consider what our attitude towards it would be. But the budget is quite a different thing, and the members of the Legislative Assembly, after throwing out three or four items, thought that they had expressed their opinion and that it was no longer necessary for the representatives of the people to be throwing out items in that way and they left the rest of the items to be considered on their own merits. I do not think that, whatever reasons may be advanced, they will be considered by our friends opposite. But we shall take consolation in the fact that we did our best to put before the House our point of view and leave the rest in the hands of the whole House.

Babu SARAT CHANDRA BASU: Mr. President, I apologise to you for having been late to-day in attending the Council. I regret it very much that I did not come in time to listen to His Excellency's speech, but my friends here have apprised me with some of the facts that were dealt with by His Excellency this afternoon and I feel that I have missed an opportunity of witnessing the day's disaster in His Lordship's morning face. Mr. President, we are at a very momentous stage of this

Council affair. The question is whether we are going to give grants or not. My friend, Mr. Mitter, has pointed out the consequence that may ensue if the budget is thrown out like this. He believes that the only result will be revolution. My hon'ble friend ought to consider that he is beginning at the wrong end. Revolution is not the only consequence. There are other consequences which may follow. Now, Sir, with reference to this budget, have we got strong indications of the Government mind on the subject? We know, Sir, that the best art is that which conceals art. We know that in this instance, when the budget is going to be debated, the Government have given us their mind very unequivocally. We know as a fact that three different resolutions which were carried by an enormous majority had been set at naught. By that the Government want to show to this House what their intentions are.

Government has told us in plain language, 'Do what you will, we will do what we like." Under these circumstances, and especially in view of the opinion of this House that this system of diarchy must not be allowed to continue for any length of time, I think we must end this system; and the only way to do that would be to refuse the grants. My friend, Mr. Mitter, says the consequence will be a revolution. Revolution is not such a bad word as my friend, Mr. Mitter, thinks. Let us go back to the year 1833, when an exactly similar situation arose in England. We know what followed. There the Duke of Wellington, with all his might opposed the reform scheme, and when there was a big gathering at Manchester or Leeds—I forget which—His Lordship ordered the yeomanry to ride over the people who were holding the meeting—men, women, and children. His Lordship also declared that he knew how to quell those people who were asking for reforms, which was characterised as a revolution but Lord Grey saved the situation by asking the King to empower him to create new members of the House of Lords, and the consequence was that the Reforms Bill was passed notwithstanding the opposition of the House of Lords. So I ask Mr. Mitter to consider this, and then come to the conclusion whether revolution is the only consequence of our action to bring about an improvement in the system of government. If Government sticks to the present attitude of setting the people's claims at naught, there is sure to be obstruction from the members of this House. On the other hand, if the Government does away with diarchy, everything will be smooth sailing, and that would be the wisest policy to adopt in the present cirmcustances. With these words I support the motion.

Babu UMES CHANDRA CHATTERJEE: I rise to support the motion of my friend, Mr. J. M. Sen Gupta, and in doing so I may remind the House that I exhorted the House to reject the budget on the 26th February last and on that day I gave my reasons. I again rise to make the same appeal. I may humbly tell the members that we will be untrue to the country if we satisfy ourselves with only being the critics

of the budget, demanding change here and there, refusal here and there. The Dehli policy must not influence our course of action. I do not bother myself about consequence, which is in the keeping of God. I only care for that which we ought to do. We ought to reject the budget because we have not made it. The money is ours and we must be the makers of the budget. The servants of the State are to apply to us for change here and there, addition here and there. In the case of this budget the cart is drawing the horse. I humbly pray the hon'ble members to give up all misgivings about consequence, trusting that to God, and make onward march without the least vacillation. If we want salvation, we must adopt obstruction, because we are a dependent nation and bloody revolution is out of the question. It is a mistake to suppose obstruction will lead to bloodshed. If there are stray cases of violence, they are due to indiscretion. Systematic outrage there cannot be in a country like ours, which is bound hand and foot by the network of railways and under the grip of the most perfect Intelligence Department. I may say here if obstruction fails, we will adopt the giving up of all foreign goods; for the country is not yet fit for civil disobedience. But obstruction will not fail, if we tenaciously stick to it. So please let us obstruct.

Babu ANILBARAN RAY: I would have silently supported the motion before the House, had not Mr. Mitter put forward a challenging argument. He says that by obstruction we are creating armed rebellion, and this argument requires an answer from us. I may tell you, Sir, the state of the country is very dangerous indeed and all of us must be very careful about the consequence of any step which we may take now. Therefore, when such an argument is put forward, we ought to give the best consideration that we can give to it, and I can tell you, believe us when we say, that we are sincerely trying to avert a violent rebellion in the country, though we do not know how far we will succeed. It is our impression that the Government by their mistake —I do not say they are deliberately doing it and I cannot think them to be so mean—are deliberately courting armed rebellion and it is our utmost effort to prevent it if we can. Obstruction will lead to rebellion, and I may point out to you that you do not know how the people of the country are determined to gain swaraj. They are determined to gain swaraj, and we cannot say how this will of the people will be given expression to if Government by their conduct flout the opinion of the country. Can you coerce the people? Can you drown their sentiment? Can you resist the will of a whole nation? I say you cannot. This will must be given an outlet. Here we are for giving it an outlet in a constitutional manner, if yon like that word; at least it will be quite legitimate and peaceful. We are giving this outlet, but if this outlet is stopped, we do not know what other outlet the will of the people will seek.

One word more and I have done. Mr. Khaitan has referred to the Labour Government in England. I wish to say one word about that Government. I also do not think ill of that Government; I do give them credit for their honest intention to help India towards self-government. We know how that Government is being kept up with the help of the Liberals and Conservatives, and they cannot take any initiative about India unless some strong case is made out by the Government of India. With that they can enforce that demand upon Parliament, and therefore we should send such a case before Parliament. If we take that point of view, and that can only be done by the major provinces and the Assembly, they must say definitely that they want to end the system of diarchy. How can that be done unless by throwing out the budget? By refusing the whole budget you will draw the attention of the Labour Government. With these words I appeal to you to help us to give an expression of the will of the people to the Labour Government.

Dr. H. W. B. MORENO: I have listened to the speeches of Mr. Sen Gupta and others with absorbing interest because I realize the momentous issues that are at stake before the House. I must, however, describe the speeches made on the other side of the House as sullen, barren and hopeless. I said "sullen" because they have shown a frame of mind which is imbued with a spirit of anger from start to finish. There is no attempt at conciliation or of finding a way out of the complexities of the situation. They are merely diatribes provoked by a spirit of anger and nothing less. We should realize, Sir, that anger leads to sullenness and nothing further. We have the great example of what sulkiness leads to, in the great Trojan War, when Achilles chafed and remained away from the fight, as a result of which the Greeks were repulsed for ten years by the Trojans. If anything could be effected by merely showing a heat of temper, I would welcome an attitude of that kind; but as it leads to no effectual result, I cannot, therefore, ally myself with a spirit of that kind.

I also said the speeches were "barren," and by that I meant that their proposals led to no fruitful result. We are here asked to oppose the budget grant so far as Land Revenue is concerned, and we are told if we do that we may bring the Government of Bengal to its knees. There were speakers here who spoke even about the removal of the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan from office.

Now, Sir, we all realise that we cannot attain our end by merely throwing out the budget. The Government is within the four corners of Statutes and Acts and it is not fair to ask that the budget should be thrown out in order to bring the Government of Bengal to its knees. Behind the Government are these Statutes and Acts, which will have to be removed first, before one can contemplate the removal of officials concerned.

We must also realise the fact that the Government of Bengal is responsible in its turn to the Government of India, and it is no use attacking the Government of Bengal on the question of constitution when it has no definite ways and means of remedying that constitution. You may reply that your intention is to attack the Government of India as well. My answer is that the Government of India is responsible in its turn to the Statutes by which it has been created through Acts of Parliament. The Hon'ble Sir Malcolm Hailey in his speeches in the Assembly made it abundantly clear that it was the intention of the Government of India, in consultation with Parliament, to adjust as far as possible all the anomalies and defects in the prevailing Statutes in order to make them respond more to the wishes of the people. I feel as other members must feel, with the Hon'ble Sir Malcolm Hailey, that these Statutes should be amended and rectified; but then these things are not done in a day. If, therefore, you chastise the Government of India, you seem to lose sight of the fact that Government is in the end responsible to Parliament. If you attack Parliament, what is your position? Babu Anilbaran Ray has said, and rightly said, that the present Labour Government of England is supported by the joint consent of the Liberals and Conservatives, and I think the speech of Lord Olivier in the House of Lords has made it perfectly clear that there is a sympathetic feeling that something should be done so far as India is concerned and so far as the Statutes and Laws will permit. There are people who have described his speech as having little effect and offering very little hope in the direction of granting responsible self-government to Bengal. I do not share an opinion of that kind. I think that Lord Olivier has made it very clear that he has left the door open for negotiation. He is willing and anxious to do his best, but he realizes the difficulty of the situation in which he is placed.

Sir, the Parliament of England is not built on the will or the whim of one man. It is responsible in the end to the people of England, and if it be really responsible, as indeed it is, it must abide by the wish and will of these people. Lord Olivier has said that he looked forward to the effectual help of the Swarajists. He was anxious that the people of India should come forward and tell him of their difficulties. But what has been their reply? Has there been any genuine attempt to meet this wish of his? Has there been any effectual combination? On the contrary, there has been a series of acts of obstruction both in this Council and in the Legislative Assembly—not to speak of the other provinces. If you are genuinely concerned over the welfare of India, it is your bounden duty to exhaust every resource at conciliation before you venture to take to a policy of obstruction. It is true that the round table conference has been tabooed for the present, for the simple reason that Lord Olivier and his colleagues were bound by the expressions made by his predecessors in office which only allowed the

revision of the Government of India Act to take place in the year 1929, but he was at the same time prepared to grant any suitable concession in order that the wishes of the people might be met more and more. In taking up an attitude of obstruction you make his attitude in Parliament immeasurably more difficult. You put the hands of the clock back. You rush in where you ought to fear to tread, with the inevitable consequence.

I also said that the speeches were "hopeless," because I realize that after obstruction is over, we must—and I think no one can resist this inference—face revolution in all its nakedness. Are you going to set back the people of India, who are now struggling inch by inch to liberty and enfranchisement? Are you prepared to plunge the country into the throes of revolution and look smilingly on? I want the people who have a feeling of this kind to bear in mind that the consequences may be more dire than they think. We are all at one with the Swaraj party in regard to their objectives. I am a Swarajist down to my heels—but I do not appreciate, in the least, the method of the so-called "Swaraj party" as we find them here and elsewhere.

Sir, who does not desire swaraj for his country, be he an Indian or Anglo-Indian? Whoever has eaten the salt of India and has been nursed in the land of India has the ideal of swaraj for his country at heart; but I am not—and I hope all sober individuals will agree with me—for a policy which will deluge this, my motherland, with revolution, with all the dire consequences that may follow from it. It seems to me, Sir, that the policy of the Swaraj party is a policy which reminds me of a story. When a prince was taught in olden times by a tutor, there was also taught along with him a boy of the common folk who received with the prince his share of education, but every time the prince failed to come up to the mark in regard to his lessons or his conduct, the punishment was meted out to the poor boy and he was lashed and castigated because the prince had done wrong. You are going to do precisely the same thing here. You are lashing the Government of Bengal, you are castigating the Government of India for faults for which they are not responsible. Therefore, as I have said before, although I am in favour of swaraj, I am not in the least in favour of any policy which will delay the coming of that most desirable end, because I realise that the spirit of iconoclasm and destruction can effect very little.

Sir, it is a very easy thing to break and destroy in one day the furniture of your house in a frenzy of anger, but it is the most difficult thing in the world to put together again the pieces that have been destroyed. We are here to frame a constructive policy with an end in view. As the policy of our Swaraj friends here is to destroy, let me say to their chagrin that they are not doing the right thing; and I cannot, and will not, agree to a policy of obstruction which leads to nowhere but a wilderness of false hopes and unfulfilled desires.

Mr. W. L. TRAVERS: The motions now before the Council urge the refusal *in toto* of the demand under the head "Land Revenue." They are, I think, admittedly in pursuance of the policy of obstruction as laid down by the leaders of the Swaraj party. Sir, a good deal has been said to-day about the relation between this policy of obstruction of the Swaraj party and the political aspect in the House of Commons. I myself, however, read that aspect rather differently. At the present moment in the House of Commons there is a Labour Ministry in power for the first time. Moreover, it is also a Ministry in minority. Hence I think it is obvious that the first item of Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's policy must be to prove to the people of England and to the people of this Empire that Labour is able to govern, and govern efficiently. I think it follows from that that the Labour Ministry wishes that the policy that they should undertake ought to be a policy which involves the least danger to itself. At the present moment there can be no doubt that in the opinion of the majority of the people of Great Britain any further step towards granting complete self-government to India only three and a half years after the initiation of the Reforms scheme constitutes a political danger. I say, therefore, that by following this wholesale policy of obstruction,—the political situation being what it is now in England,—it is very doubtful if the Swaraj party will have the support of the House of Commons. The chief party in opposition there at the present moment is the Conservative party, and its members cling entirely to methods of constitutional progress. Hence, envisaged from the point of view of Home politics, this policy of obstruction here in Bengal and elsewhere is a great mistake. Had there been indeed at the present moment a Conservative Ministry in power in the House of Commons with a Labour and Liberal opposition, then the present policy of the Swarajists might have some chance of support from the Opposition at home.

Now, Sir, there is one other point in regard to Home politics which I should like to mention, and it is this: The Labour party has reached its present position and come to power after an agitation lasting for many a long year, but entirely through constitutional methods. The methods that are being practised here in this House and in the Legislative Assembly at the present moment may perhaps be constitutional, that is to say, they may be within the letter of the law, but they are entirely contrary to every principle underlying representative institutions. But, Sir, important as are its effect upon the British Ministry, they are of little weight in comparison with the danger in the near future in this great country of Bengal. The leaders of the Swaraj party, it is true, have declared themselves as followers of the policy laid down by Mahatma Gandhi, namely, that of non-violence, and of course one accepts that declaration with the sincerity with which it is made; but unhappily the people of this province at the present moment are

uneducated. Moreover, they are being stirred as they had never been stirred before by promises of a Utopia, promises of gift of land, by promises of an ideal which at any rate in the near future, are impossible of realization. And, moreover, in constant company with these promises goes continual denunciation not only of the reformed Government but also of the British race. I say, Sir, that these methods, of which obstruction to the budget is but a side issue, bring into existence grave and serious danger of an upheaval of great violence in the province in the next two years with loss of life and property.

Sir, the British people are the authors, and Great Britain is the home and nursery, of all representative institutions and representative government. Wherever our race and our empire have gone, they have given those institutions to the people over whom it happened that they came to rule, and there cannot be any manner of doubt that they will give them to India also in God's good time. Mr. Das may laugh as to whether what I have said is true, but, Sir, there is always this point, that the people of Great Britain will not be coerced. They will not be deterred from the plain path of their duty by any obstruction, threat of violence, or loss of life and property.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: It will not be possible for me to convey to the House half the emphasis, or to attempt to exceed half the force, exhibited in the speech of the previous speaker; but I can assure the House this: that we of the Nationalist party, who have decided at the present moment to oppose the budget, have done so after the greatest consideration, nay, more than that, Sir, after severe mental tribulation; and we have done so, because we feel that there is no other possible course open to any real representative of the people of this province. We have never, Sir, considered it our policy to obstruct the budget or to oppose the Government whether it finds itself able to help itself or not. And although Babu Debi Prosad Khaitan is usually wrong in his impressions and in his opinions and his information, he was perfectly right in his statement that Mr. Byomkes Chakravarti was at some time or other offered the Ministry and was prepared to take the responsibility of running the Transferred departments. I am revealing no secrets of my party, but I can tell you this: that if Mr. Chakravarti had accepted the Ministry, it would have been only on honourable terms, and that he should be permitted to choose his colleagues on the Ministerial benches was not the only condition placed by him. Thus, this attitude of ours is really a protest against the constitution, and not, as my friend, Babu Debi Prosad Khaitan, says, a matter of retaliation. We have no desire to retaliate. We are not children. We cannot take on ourselves the responsibility of seeing this budget through under the present system and under the present conditions. If the Government takes that responsibility on its own shoulders, let it do so. We are not prepared to accept this responsibility—that

simply is our position. Mr. Moreno has, with a deep political foresight, for which I scarcely gave him credit till to-day, gauged Lord Olivier's speech and fathomed it, if I may so, truly. There is not the least doubt that at a first reading, Lord Olivier's speech strikes us as being pre-eminently sympathetic. I shall consider only one point. Hitherto the Swarajists had always been considered by the Government to be outside the pale of humanity, persons whose only object is to wreck, and therefore persons who are not to be considered in any scheme of Government. For the first time a responsible statesman has stated that the Swarajists are an important factor in the politics of this country, and that he would like to consult them. He has gone that far and no further. Lord Olivier's view can rightly be considered to be that he is bound by the policy of previous Parliaments and he can only give us little concessions. We are not out for little concessions, and it seems that there is no way open to us except to obstruct. I may say, Sir, before closing my remarks, that we do not hold the same view as regards the power of His Excellency as His Excellency has outlined to us to-day. His Excellency has power, if he thinks it is for the tranquillity of the province and the safety of the province, to restore all grants, and neither the Calcutta University nor the Dacca University need starve, if His Excellency thinks that their existence is necessary for the safety and tranquillity of the province.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md. CHOINUDDIN: I think the object of my Swaraj friends in refusing the supplies wanted by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Revenue Department is the ultimate attainment of swaraj. If I understand their *modus operandi* correctly, I think their plan of action is this—they will try not to have swaraj from the hands of the Government in a peaceful manner, but extort it from the Government by their own might, by paralysing Government by obstructing them in their work in this Council. They will obstruct the Government, they will try to paralyse the Government, they will try to bring the administration to a deadlock. The Government will then, they think, be compelled to grant swaraj to the people of India. There is no difference of opinion about the ultimate object between the Swaraj party and the other political parties in this country. The difference of opinion is only about the method. Their method is to paralyse the Government and bring them to their knees, and then compel them to give swaraj. Let us consider for a moment whether the means which they are going to adopt from to-day will achieve the desired object; let us consider whether the means of obstruction will ever succeed in paralysing the Government. Suppose they carry their motion by an overwhelming majority and throw out and refuse the grant which has been asked for by the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur, what will be the consequence? There can be only two consequences—either His Excellency the Governor will certify or he will accept the motion for refusal

and sit quiet. Suppose His Excellency accepts the proposal for refusal, what will be the consequence? The Government will not suffer in any way, the Government will not be paralysed thereby, but it is our countrymen—hundreds of officers, Deputy Magistrates, Sub-Deputy Collectors, clerks and peons—who will suffer. They will die of starvation with their old mothers, their wives and children. Government will not at all be affected. On the other hand, if His Excellency certifies and restores the grant, the Government will go on as usual. So in either case the object which our Swarajist friends have in view will not be achieved. If that be the consequence of adopting this sort of procedure, if that be the result of adopting this sort of means, then I do not understand why they should make so much fuss about this, why there should be so much ado about nothing. If such an action would lead us to nowhere, why should they waste their time, money and energy over a procedure of this sort? Let us next consider whether there is any justification at all for adopting this policy of obstruction. It was only three and a half years ago that the present Government of India Act was brought into operation, and in the preamble to that Act we find that the Government of Britain have committed themselves in connection with this question of swaraj or self-government. They have said that the establishment of full self-government is their object. They have promised to give us full swaraj in time. They have for the first time in the anals of our constitutional history given over the administration of some of the departments of the Government to popular control—I mean the Departments of Agriculture, Industries, Education, etc. They have said in the preamble to that Act that if we, Indians, can shoulder our responsibility in this connection, if we can show by our responsible work in the Council and in the administration of the Government that we are co-operating with the Government, then they say in section 84A of the same Act that after ten years the Government of England will appoint a Statutory Commission to inquire into the whole question of the future Government of India and they will, I am sure, gradually extend to us larger and greater rights and privileges. Now, this ten years is nothing in the life of a nation. If we could patiently wait for seven hundred years under Muhammadan rule and more than two thousand years under Hindu rule, I see no reason why we cannot wait for seven years, which is nothing in the life of a nation. During the Muhammadan period the Government of the country used to be carried on by absolute monarchs with the help of vasirs. This democracy is an alien thing, it is not a thing which is Indian. It is after the advent of the English that we have begun to think of this system of Government, and as we are in the habit of imitating everything English, we are eager to have this English system of government. I think the British Government have been quite serious in fixing ten years as the transition period, by which time, I think, we will perhaps be able to adopt our constituencies to constitutional ways. At present, so far as

education is concerned, the condition of our countrymen is most deplorable—I think only some 8 or 9 per cent. of the people can read or write and the rest are immersed in ignorance. They do not understand what the Council is. Let us patiently wait, let us educate our countrymen, let us introduce more education, and in the meantime let us also have experience by trying to act according to the provisions of the Act. Of course there may be defects in the Act, there may be limitations and restrictions in it, but in spite of its defects, in spite of its limitations and restrictions, it must be admitted that we have been given some powers. We are here to advise the Government with regard to the expenditure, with regard to the framing of laws, etc. Our advise is not always mandatory or binding on the Government, but if our advice is reasonable, Government is bound to accept it.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: May I, Sir, rise to a point of order? Is a member entitled to read newspapers in the Council Chamber?

Mr. EDWARD VILLIERS: I am reading a newspaper, because it has something to do with the speech I am about to make. It has nothing to do with any other matter.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md. CHOINUDDIN: They have done so during the last three years. What I was going to say is that in spite of the defects of the present Act, we have got opportunities of doing good to our countrymen. I do not see why we should not be satisfied with half a loaf rather than have no loaf, but from the way our Swarajist friends are managing things, I think they think that no loaf is better than half a loaf. The gift of swaraj lies in the hands of the British people; we cannot ignore the fact that they are the rulers of the country and we are the ruled, and they say that they will mark the time by which we will be fit for full responsible government. In the very preamble of the Act it is laid down that it is Parliament which is the arbiter of the question when, and the manner in which, full swaraj should be established in this country. We are to get swaraj either gradually and amicably from our rulers, or by force—by declaring an open rebellion. I do not think the latter course is possible, and obstruction is utterly useless. I do not see any reason why we should not proceed harmoniously with the Government. With these words I oppose the motion for refusal.

Mr. J. A. JONES: I have listened with the greatest possible attention to the considerations which have been advanced by the other side of the House in favour of the revolutionary proceedings in which they are engaged. Surely, when you propose to adopt a procedure that is of a highly extraordinary character, to say the least, it will only be showing due respect to this assembly, to bring forward some serious reasons for what you are doing. The only reason which I have heard alleged, besides a good deal of vituperation which has not impressed

me in the slightest degree, is that Government have refused to accept or to act upon the famous resolution in favour of the repeal of Regulation III of 1818. Now, what in the name of Heaven has the Government of Bengal, in the first place, to do with that Regulation? It is not a Regulation of the Bengal Government; the Bengal Government cannot repeal it; and even if it could, it would be very unwise to do so. But the curious part about it is that, while I understand the whole policy of the party opposite is to attack Mr. Fazl-ul Huq and Mr. Ghuznavi as Ministers, they seek to damage them, because in a matter in which they, at any rate, had no responsibility, they have not acted according to the wishes of the Swaraj party. The whole responsibility, so far as there is one, for dealing with Regulation III of 1818, rests with the Reserved department; and why and by what process of reasoning or logic members opposite find material for attacking the Ministers on a question belonging to the Reserved department, is beyond my understanding. If they are attacking the Ministers for something which the Ministers have done, I can well understand it, but they are attacking them for something done by the Executive Council, whose proceedings under the diarchy are not subject to control by this House. I cannot understand the logic of those who condemn the diarchy, who say that it is preposterous that parts of the diarchy have been reserved from the control of the House and do not admit of their control. Surely, it is not a reasonable thing to ask. Why should this diarchy function in a way which it was not intended to do? The only argument that I have heard in the whole course of the afternoon in favour of the refusal of the demand for Land Revenue is that the Bengal Government have not accepted or acted upon a resolution of the Council for the repeal of Regulation III of 1818. Can there be a more frivolous, more irrelevant, more illogical reason for resorting to the drastic step of rejecting the demand of Land Revenue, which has nothing whatever to do with Regulation III of 1818 and which has nothing whatever to do with diarchy? It seems to me that throughout this discussion members on the opposite side have shown a complete misconception of the very system which, they say, should be destroyed. I have sometimes thought that members opposite have not read the famous report on constitutional reforms. Anyhow they speak with a colossal ignorance of what these reforms were intended to perform. These reforms were intended to be a transitional step towards complete self-government: because they are transitional, because they are admittedly incomplete. It was explained hundreds and thousands of times in Parliament and elsewhere, that the reforms were never intended to be complete: this is a transitional step, and a part of that transitional stage is that certain powers are reserved to the Executive Council. Yet because that provision has been faithfully carried out, members on the opposite side become petulant. Because they expected from the reforms what they could not find in them, they want to destroy the whole system. I have waited with

some impatience to know what results they expect to attain by throwing out these demands. Whom are they going to benefit—whom are they going to hurt? They are not going to hurt the Government; we have that from the highest authority. The only people they are going to hurt are poor people, schoolmasters, people engaged in municipal work, and people who depend for their livelihood upon sums coming from the Government of Bengal. The whole of this farce in which we are now engaged (Hear, hear) comes to this: that the gentlemen opposite are posing as magnificent heroes at the expense of the village schoolmaster.

Mr. S. C. MUKERJI: Mr. J. M. Sen Gupta, as the mouthpiece of the Swaraj party, has put the issues in a most clear-cut fashion. The budget must be thrown out not because of its own merits but it must be thrown out *in toto* because of the constitutional issues, and so far as I have been able to follow and analyse his speech, the issues are three. The budget must be thrown out because the diarchy has proved an absolute failure; because the people have no control over the finances; and because the Government do not respond to the wishes of the people, and that has been more than illustrated by the rejection of one or two resolutions that were brought forward in the January session in the matter of the release of political prisoners and that of the repeal of repressive measures. Well, Sir, if I knew and if I were thoroughly convinced that this deadlock procedure would settle the issues, that it would bring diarchy to an end, that it would bring about full control over the finances, and would force the Government to give effect to every resolution brought up in the Legislative Council, I would say "Amen, go on; I wish you god-speed." But the Swarajists have themselves told me that they do not believe that the throwing out of the budget would bring them to a realization of the goal which they wish to attain in this coercive fashion. They have told me, over and over again, that they know that the throwing out of the budget will not bring about the consumation they are praying for, but it will bring to them a little more concession, a further instalment. If that were so, and if that be what they think in their heart of hearts, I say that this is a most dangerous and risky procedure to adopt. I said to the Swarajists, "Why did you lose the golden opportunity which was offered to you when you were asked to accept the Ministry?" They answered in all seriousness, "We would have been helpless." Why helpless? You, as Swarajists, have the whole country behind you. The Ministers, as you say, might fail, because they do not at present represent the people; it was said during the last three years that the Hon'ble Ministers did not represent anybody. But you say you are the accredited representatives of the people of the country. If that be so, if the whole country is behind you, why did not you put forth the whole force of that support, why did you not have the courage to take up the full responsibility and show the unworkableness of the diarchy? You have not exhausted the transitional stage; you want to show that

without taking full responsibility in the matter of showing the unworkableness of the present system, which in your estimation is a rotten system; without taking up the responsibility, you came forward and take up these obstructive tactics, which you have no right to do. You have not got the mandate from the country [Voices: "We have got the mandate"]. You have not shown both sides of the shield to the [illegible] the country; you have shown only one side of the picture; [illegible] not shown the other; you have told the people that by throwing [illegible] budget *in toto*——

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: Is the gentleman entitled to address the Swarajists direct or through the Chair?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I think Mr. Mukerji is quite in order. He is making an invocation through me.

Mr. C. R. DAS: Is the member in order in trying to misrepresent the Swarajists' position?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Das, that is a matter with which I have no concern. If the member is misrepresenting any member, it is open to that member to repudiate the interpretation by an explanation in his subsequent speech. It is absolutely unknown to me whether he is misrepresenting any particular member or not. I am not supposed to know the policy of any particular party in the House.

Mr. C. R. DAS: I only wanted to know that.

Mr. S. C. MUKERJI: Mr. C. R. Das thinks that when anybody says anything which disagrees with his views, then it is nothing but gross misrepresentation. I have a right to put my own interpretation of the position, and that interpretation is that the Swarajists have shown only one side of the picture to the people. They have told the people, the 45 millions of the people of Bengal, that by throwing out the budget *in toto* they will be able to attain swaraj. They have not told the people that by throwing out the budget they may retard the progress of swaraj and set back the hands of the clock and bring about a deadlock, a complete paralysis which cannot but mean injury to the people at large.

[At this stage there was some demonstration from the gallery.]

Mr. PRESIDENT: There must be no demonstration in the gallery. The next time it occurs, I shall have the gallery cleared.

Mr. H. BARTON: When we saw such a large number of oppositions to the budget, I thought we were going to hear some very substantial arguments for the opposition. Instead we are being treated to a display of anger, retaliation, obstruction and defiance. After His Excellency had addressed the Council, and hearing what the opposers of the budget had to say, I cannot help coming to the conclusion that it was useless

of His Excellency to appeal to intelligence, common-sense and responsibility. All the Swarajists appear to have been bound by a determination to obstruct at any cost. They have become obsessed with an idea of revenge against the Government, because Government did not respect certain resolutions which were carried by a majority of this House. Most of the speakers, to my mind, appear to me to be trying to vie with each other as to who could best revile the Government. Reviling is no argument, and we are told the same thing, and when you sum it up, it seems that they are all very angry and very disappointed. Criticisms went to show that the administration of public funds is not being carried on in a manner that would be for the good of the people. It is surprising how anyone reading the various demands in the budget can come to this conclusion; every page of the budget points to the public good; it shows how carefully the needs of the people have been studied, and yet, when a Minister in a department makes a demand for this grant, it is viewed or at least judged from what has been said, as though he wants it for his own personal use instead of for the use of the departments for which money is actually required. The claim of these opposers is that they must have all the money, they must have control over every rupee in the Government exchequer. A claim of this sort is no guarantee that they will administer the funds any better; on the contrary, we might very well prophesy that conditions will become so intolerable, that the very people whose representatives these opposers of the budget claim to be, will be asking very shortly not for full self-government, but for the heads of the people who are to-day leading them to destruction. They say, we have not been given enough. How is it possible for them to say such a thing when everyone who studies the present position thinks that they have got too much to start with; so much so that they appear to be suffering from over-feeding. Government, to my mind, has made a great blunder, starting them too soon on a diet of strong meat, and it would be much better had they been kept on a diet of adulterated milk for some time before attempting anything stronger. This early pampering has created this evil confusion and obstruction. It has created a too early demand for total self-government. Speakers other than myself have drawn attention to the fact that Mr. Das was afforded the best chance of his life to show he could do things better than those whom he and his followers condemn. Why did he refuse? What did this refusal indicate? Simply this—an admission of hopeless incompetence to fill the post and the fear to accept responsibility. In asking for responsible government you are asking to have everything placed in your hands, and when your leader is offered to accept this responsibility, what is the attitude you adopt?——

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order! The member will please address me.

Mr. H. BARTON: What is the attitude members are adopting? One of abject cowardice, fear to accept even some responsibility for which they condemn those who are entrusted with it. Government have been blamed over and over again for oppression; what does this opposition to the budget mean? It means more than oppression. It is, to my mind, a whip with which to whip the poor people who look to the Government confidently for providing these funds. What right, I ask, has anyone to suggest that the bread of the workers should be taken away? What right has anyone to say that Government shall not provide funds to meet these demands? Instead of rendering the people a service, they are rendering them a disservice. In short, it shows they want to sacrifice the people, whom they say they represent, on the alter of bitterness and revenge. That is entirely what they are out for. Sir, perhaps the aspirations of the opposite party may be perfectly legitimate; no one finds fault with their aspirations, but how is it possible for them to say that they are conducting things in a proper manner? They are out to erect some gigantic structure, but it would appear both the architect and the builders whom they have chosen are at fault; if the foundations are badly laid, sooner or later the whole structure will come down on their own heads. Signs are not lacking to show that Mr. Das and his party are slowly beginning to realize this and to lose ground. Mr. Das and many others have already realized this.

We have been told by one of the speakers on the other side in a note of warning that the country is in a very dangerous position. I quite accept that, and I would also add that it is becoming dangerous not for us, not for the Government, but for the very people who are creating this position. If the idea is that this obstruction is going to place these leaders of the party in a position of eminence, they are wrong, and it will not be very long before they are brought into utter condemnation by the very people they are misleading to-day, and they will never be able to attain anything like the swaraj they are looking forward to, if they follow these tactics of obstruction, defiance and revenge.

[At this stage the Council was adjourned for 15 minutes.]

[After the adjournment.]

Sir GEORGE GODFREY: I rise with some diffidence to speak on this resolution before the House, because I cannot help feeling that there is a condition prevailing in the House which makes it unlikely that anything I may say will have any effect on members. At the same time the matter of this resolution is of such great importance that I wish to express some opinions upon it. In the first place I may remark on the extraordinary conduct of some members of this House, in having tabled a mass of resolutions on this particular head of the budget, wasting our time and incidentally public money in

connection with printing, when apparently they had no intention whatever of putting them forward for debate in the House. We have seen this afternoon 111 motions withdrawn, without an apology, without an explanation, without any word of expression of regret to the House, without any admission of, what I may call, the stupid futility of the action, and yet in the face of that, the mover of the present motion, Mr. Sen Gupta, stands up opposite and says that his resolution has been put forward in no light-hearted manner, but in real earnest, and, save the mark, in the best interests of the Government. Could there be a greater contradiction of that statement than the hysterical performance, worthy of a comic opera, which we have witnessed on these resolutions being withdrawn? Mr. Sen Gupta denies the powers the members of the Council have, he describes them as being only a sham and hollow mockery, and to prove this, what is his instance? He quotes the resolution of some five or six weeks ago dealing with the release of political prisoners. Also he claims that his party voice the constituencies that his members represent. Does he really think that his party represent the true opinion of the people of this province, and even of the voters at the polls? He and his party have means of obtaining votes, that we can grant them, but by what means have they obtained them? Well, I cannot give the answer, but one can only surmise, and I say that in my opinion I do not believe that the voters of this province are so childish, so ignorant, and so irresponsible as to hold to the obstructive and self-destructive tactics which the Swaraj party have displayed in this House. The powers of this House are not a sham and hollow mockery; the one instance that he quotes, the citation of that resolution about the release of political prisoners, in itself shows at once the weakness of his contention, because how can any sane, responsible Government act on that resolution when they know for a fact that revolutionary plots are even now being hatched and planned in this city, when a house was raided within a few days of the passing of that resolution, and was found to be filled with those dreadful weapons of revolution and anarchy which were discovered there? What surprises me is that the members of the Swaraj party can stand up and refer to that resolution of a month ago without making one word of admission of the proofs which have been revealed as to the danger which is within our midst. Another speaker accused Government of irresponsibility. I wonder to what Government he was referring. I doubt if he knows himself. But taking the word "government" in its widest sense, I am not at all sure that I do not agree with him, because one really cannot understand how any Government but one thoroughly imbued with irresponsibility could have thought that the people of this province were fit for any share at all of self-government, if they are to be judged by the conduct in this House of so-called politicians. But I do not, and will not, believe that the people of this province are as bad as that. Could they only be led by their own kind with sense and intelligence, could the leaders

only make an honest attempt to work the Reforms scheme, then this province would be happier, be more prosperous, and would be well set out on the high-road to a further advance towards the final stage of self-government; but alas, these leaders refuse to make that effort. The Reforms scheme presented a definite constructive scheme. The Government gave them a chance to work it—a chance to display statesmanship, but the politicians, for their own selfish ends, I fear, are trying to destroy that scheme and to ruin this fair province of Bengal by fostering racial antagonism and strife. I wish to ask all careful thinkers—all those who honestly desire to do good to their country—to hesitate, before they wildly and rashly join forces with those who are creating disaster by voting for this resolution.

Sir WILLOUGHBY CAREY: I had hoped, perhaps almost against hope, that we might have come here to-day to a different scene of action to that we have unfortunately had. It discourages, almost sickens, to find the complete lack of dignity which has characterized a very great deal of the debate on the part of the opposition. The Bengal Council was known at one time before the last elections as a place where you could, in spite of occasional lapses possibly common to all assemblies, at least discuss with reason and common-sense and with dignity subjects affecting the welfare of the province, but I am afraid the attitude of the Swaraj party has made, and is making, that state of things a thing of the past. We know the saying that whom the gods want to destroy they first make mad. Now the Government whom we have heard reviled constantly, not only here to-day but in all sorts of Swaraj organs for a long time past, had no hand whatever in the maddening of this party. Their madness has been bred among themselves and is now bearing fruit. I do not wish to speak harshly. I speak facts as they appear to men who, like myself, can claim to have given careful thought and study during the past two or three years to the condition of Bengal and to the condition of India as a whole.

I would ask the Swaraj party to believe, to listen once more to what they have not infrequently been told, that this is not the way to attain their desires. When I compare the swaraj of to-day, as expressed and expounded by the present leaders and their followers, with the swaraj which some two or three years ago we believed it to be the two things are quite unrecognizable. I know I am probably wasting breath. There is lots of evidence that the present opposition, either here or in any other Council, is not open to reason. That is the reason that I say that they have bred their own madness, which can only lead them to destruction. I have plenty of other good examples from persons who have expressed this opinion before me, but I take the opportunity once more in my own way of expressing it in this House.

From Mr. Sen Gupta's remarks it is quite obvious that the Swaraj party and those who follow them wish to run before they can walk.

Many sympathetic Europeans would be quite willing to assist them to walk, but it is quite impossible to assist a man who throws away the hand that is proffered to him and persists in trying to run down the hill from which you would wish to keep him. Referring for one moment only to this much-debated Regulation No. III and the references that have been made to it, there are many good reasons why that resolution as passed in this House could not be given effect to, and I myself as a representative of employers of labour and as an employer of labour would most certainly, if the opportunity had risen at the time, have protested against any action being taken on that resolution, because it has been proved over and over again that many of the men who have been unfortunate enough to be restrained under that measure have, on being released, at once thrown their energies again to the stirring up of trouble and of disaffection among labour, which at the present time by no stretch of imagination can be called unhappy or down-trodden, and as such they jeopardise not only the interest of those who employ the labour but the general peace of the province and its safety. Many of the arguments used by the members have reminded me while I was listening to them of the sort of things we used to hear in the days of the Hymn of Hate, and these remarks are only intended to lead to action which can only be described as cutting off the nose to spite the face.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: I am sure the House will agree with me that the issues raised by this resolution are of such far-reaching importance that they should be discussed in an atmosphere free from passion and prejudice and with that calmness and sobriety of judgment which are demanded in considering questions of such vital importance. Sir, it has been my lot to earn the notoriety of being somewhat aggressive in my remarks. I do not know, Sir, what justification there can be for that charge, but at the present moment I shall do my best to restrain myself. I do not know if I am really suffering from a weakness of the kind attributed to me, but I want to put before the House certain facts for their serious consideration before they caste their vote on either side. His Excellency the Governor has made it quite plain what the consequences will be if the budget before the Council is actually thrown out. I will repeat for the benefit of the members who may not have been present, or who may not have taken the trouble to consider the position that has been explained to the House by His Excellency, that there are only two courses open to His Excellency as regard the Reserved departments, namely, to restore under the powers given by the Government of India Act the demands that will be thrown out by the Council, or not to take action under those extraordinary powers. As regards the Transferred portion, His Excellency has made it clear that it is not a question of intention or desire: His Excellency has absolutely no power under the Act to restore the grants that may be refused. Considering, Sir,

for a moment the Reserved portion of the budget, let us take it for the sake of argument that my friends by a majority refuse the grant that has been demanded by the Maharaja. His Excellency may or may not certify it. His Excellency has said that at the present moment it is not possible to say what course His Excellency is going to adopt, but this much is certain, and that is clear from the entire tone of His Excellency's speech, that he is not going to put back the demands in their entirety if they are refused by the House. Now, take the demand that has been made by the Maharaja under the head "Land Revenue." Let us analyse the demands that have been made under this head. They include, for instance, the pay of certain Deputy Collectors and Sub-Deputy Collectors. If the demand is not put back, the result will be that these Deputy Collectors and Sub-Deputy Collectors will not receive their salary, that the work in which they are engaged will not go on, that the peons and other members of the establishment will not be paid their salaries, and that so far as that particular portion of the administration is concerned, the work will come to an utter standstill. This is absolutely plain and must be so to every member of this House. The next question which I ask all my friends to consider is, for how long can this state of things go on? My friends might have the impression that as soon as the budget is thrown out, somebody—either the Government of India, or the Secretary of State, or the British Parliament, or the British public—will take pity on our shipwrecked condition and by some mysterious way come to our rescue.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: Will take pity on the Ministers.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: I am not talking of the Ministers at all; they go out of the programme altogether. You need have no pity for them. They knew when they accepted office that they were not coming to a bed of roses, and they were prepared for all eventualities. Now, Sir, supposing that state of things is brought about, if the Government of India Act is to be amended or modified or changed, or any action taken, it must be by the British Parliament, because my friends have admitted that they decline to appeal to arms. Whatever method they may adopt must be a constitutional method of agitation, in order to bring about a modification of the Government of India Act. Now, the Government of India Act is a Parliamentary enactment. Parliament may not be in session, and if the modified Act is to be redrafted, it will certainly take some time. Parliament will have to assemble, there will be some readings of the Act, both in the House of Commons and in the House of Lords, and the whole of this process must take at least some months if not a whole year. During these months, may be during the whole year, the Deputy Collectors, Sub-Deputy Collectors, and the poor schoolmasters will be without their salary and a portion of the administration will be brought to a standstill, and will be in that condition before

any action can be taken by Parliament. I am only placing my views before the House—I may be absolutely wrong—but, as I have said at the very beginning, the question is of very great importance and I sincerely expect from my friends who are going to be the arbiters of the destinies of the nation to have a little patience and to hear me. Sir, it seems to me that quiet talking has as little effect as a fighting speech. I am only placing certain facts before the House and drawing your attention to the simple fact that if they succeed in bringing about a deadlock, the deadlock is bound to continue for months together before any remedy can be found. (Laughter.) I ask my friends in all seriousness: Is it good breeding, is it good manners, is it good sense, to be laughing at me from that corner (No, no)——

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order!

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: Are they the monopoly of Government?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL-HUQ: They are the monopoly of those who have been brought up as gentlemen.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: That is objectionable.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It is not objectionable. The hon'ble member must understand that if the Hon'ble Minister is not allowed to speak without interruption, he may be provoked.

Mr. C. R. DAS: Am I to understand that the Hon'ble Minister has got the right of telling a member of this House that he is not a gentleman?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: I never said anything of the kind.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order! The Hon'ble Minister has said nothing of the kind. He is being subjected to constant interruption and it is impossible for him to make any speech. I am sure if Mr. Das were subjected to this constant stream of interruption, he would also lose his temper.

Mr. C. R. DAS: I can assure you, Sir, that I would not tell any member of this House that he is not a gentleman, even under the greatest provocation.

[Here Dr. A. Suhrawardy rose to make certain observations.]

Mr. PRESIDENT: We do not require your intervention in this matter, Dr. Suhrawardy.

[At this stage the Swarajist members left the Council Chamber, crying "Shame," "Shame."]

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Before I leave the Chamber, may I ask if it is permissible for the Hon'ble Minister to speak of "good breeding" of the members and if it is good breeding to speak in the way that he has done.

Mr. PRESIDENT: These were purely rhetorical questions, Mr. Banerjee, and were not intended to be personal. You must see that for yourself.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: I only say that it is the monopoly of those who have been brought up as gentlemen. I have said all what I had to say on the point and I do not wish to speak any longer.

Adjournment.

The Council was then adjourned till 3 P.M., on Wednesday, the 19th March, 1924, at the Town Hall, Calcutta.

Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Government of India Act.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in the Town Hall, Calcutta, on Wednesday, the 19th March, 1924, at 3 P.M.

Present:

The Hon'ble the President in the Chair, the four Hon'ble Members of the Executive Council, the two Hon'ble Ministers, and 126 nominated and elected members.

The Hon'ble Maulvi Fazl-ul Huq's statement on previous day's misunderstanding.

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq): Before the Council takes up the ordinary business of the day, may I be permitted to say a few words with reference to the unfortunate occurrence which closed the proceedings last night? As my friends in Council must have seen from the report published in the papers this morning I never meant, by anything that I said, to wound the feelings of any of my friends in this House. It is true that, when I was being interrupted by remarks, I put questions to the effect "if my friends could reconcile such conduct with good manners and good breeding." I am told that some of my friends took objection to the words "good breeding." Now, as I understand the words, "good breeding" mean and have reference only to the manner in which a man has been brought up. It is a common phrase to say that a man is well bred and well brought up. It is in that sense that I understand the words and it was with that meaning that I used the expression "good breeding and good manners."

As regards the other remarks that I made that good breeding and good manners are not the monopoly of any particular individual but may be the monopoly of those who have been brought up as gentlemen, I submit to this Council that by this statement no offence could possibly be meant to anybody. At the same time, however, as I have said in my letter which I sent to the Press last night, if, by what I said, I have offended the feelings of my friends here, I express my sincere regret and I hope this expression of regret will be accepted by my friends in the spirit in which it is made.

Mr. PRESIDENT (the Hon'ble Mr. H. E. A. Cotton): I do not see Mr. C. R. Das in his place, but I feel sure that members opposite will

accept the statement of the Hon'ble Minister in the spirit in which it is made. I was rather hoping to have heard some members on the opposite side say so.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: In the absence of my friend, Mr. C. R. Das, we appreciate the spirit in which Mr. Fazl-ul Huq has made that statement to-day. The less said about the matter the better.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I desire to congratulate the Council on the very satisfactory termination of a most unfortunate misunderstanding. I have one word to add. I am afraid that perhaps Dr. Suhrawardy may have felt aggrieved at a certain observation which fell from me yesterday in the heat of the moment. I hope that Dr. Suhrawardy will accept my assurance that there was no such intention on my part. The fact is that I have been accustomed in the past to give and take very hard knocks in the course of debate, and I must confess that it did seem to me that undue importance was being attached to the incident which occurred last night. At the same time I want to make it quite clear that Dr. Suhrawardy was quite in order in rising to a point of order yesterday evening.

The Budget of the Government of Bengal, 1924-25.

Demands for Grants.

5.—Land Revenue.

Mr. EDWARD VILLIERS: I wish, Sir, to add my voice of protest against the motion which is and has been, since yesterday, under discussion. I must confess that, with Sir George Godfrey, I share some of the apprehension which he has voiced as to the possible futility of saying anything at all or adding one word which may instil some sense of the gravity of the situation into those who would appear to us thus recklessly to be jeopardising the future of this Province. At the same time, Sir, such I conceive it to be the gravity of the situation that I think no stone should be left unturned—no word left unsaid that may possibly do its small quota to influencing the decision which is to be arrived at some time during the course of this afternoon. Now, Sir, before dealing directly with the situation, there are two points on which I crave the indulgence of the House to deal with for a short time. It appears to me that the impression of Mr. C. R. Das and many of his followers is that they are the very first to have discovered the inherent weakness—to put it mildly—of the diarchical system of the Reforms and it seems to me, Sir, that as such, they arrogate to themselves certain mental kudos for which I entirely fail to see their justification for so doing. When the Reforms were originally brought in, there were many

of us who voiced the same opinion that Mr. C. R. Das and Pundit Motilal Nehru voice to-day, viz., that the Reforms really are not much more than a farce. There were many of us who believed it then—there are many of us who believe it still; the fundamental difference, however, lies between the attitude adopted by the Swarajists and by those—if I might use the expressions without offence—of the saner members of the community, is that whereas we both dislike the Reforms, we realise that the Reforms are irrevocably there for the time being and that as such it is the only form of Government that we have got; this being the case it is absolutely no use our sitting down and saying—we will have none of them. The Reforms, if I may use a simile, appear to me to be otherwise. India has had designed for her a craft which it is the intention of the British Government that she should ultimately sail herself. As I said, many of us initially conceived that craft to be in no way seaworthy. Many of us went further than that and said that it could not last even the bare minimum transitional period for which it was designed. But, Sir, whereas some of the crew have made up their mind that, bad as the craft is, unseaworthy though it may be, they are going to try and pilot it across the sea, others have taken up the attitude that it is not worth a trial and that they must have done with it. I entirely fail to see the logic of this attitude. Why, Sir, was a transitional period given to India at all? Was it not in order that in the course of time practical proof should be forthcoming as to whether the antagonists or the protagonists of the Reforms scheme were right? Surely that was one of the principal reasons; and the other reason and the greater reason surely was to get practical proof as to whether the people to whom the working of the new constitution was to be handed over were going to prove worthy or not. Sir, one of the things which has to be borne in mind, but which I think has not been sufficiently emphasised, is this: that the ultimate decision as to whether this constitution is going to suit India or not, does not rest with us: it neither rests with the Swarajists nor with those who are outside the Swarajists camp, neither with Mr. C. R. Das nor with his followers. They are not the arbiters as to whether this shall or shall not be deemed sufficient and as to whether in the fullness of time the antagonists or protagonists of the Reforms scheme are going finally to be proved right. The ultimate decision rests with the Parliament at home and those who sit in the Parliament in England and those who are ultimately going to decide this issue. Now, gentlemen, following this particular line of argument——

Mr. PRESIDENT: You must address me and not the members of the House.

Mr. EDWARD VILLIERS: I am sorry, Sir. Following this particular line of argument if it is the House of Parliament which is going

ultimately to accept or condemn the Reforms, surely we who are sitting here in India, if we are to expect them to take a sound view of the situation. Surely we should give them no excuse for saying that we did not give them a fair chance. That is the cardinal issue we have got to face here. Are we going to give the Reforms a fair chance or not? Sir, many of us have a very deep dislike of this diarchical system of government. I personally have the strongest dislike of it. But it is just because I have got this dislike that I want them condemned fairly and squarely on their own demerits and that is why I ask the House to give them a fair chance.

The second point that I want to raise is this—and in doing so again I preface my remarks by saying that my remarks should in no sense be taken in any way as savouring of a threat. It is because I conceive the situation to be such a serious one that I stand here to speak out what I have in my mind. My second point, then, deals with the constant and reiterated charge of insincerity is always being thrown at the Government and therefore presumably at those who try to assist the Government in the matter of the Reforms. Now, Sir, I would ask the House to look back into the years when the Reforms were first proposed. I would again ask the House not to take what I say as a threat. I would ask the House to face it as a possible issue and it is this: At the time that His Majesty the King Emperor made his pronouncement of the 20th of August, the British nation was from one point of view in no way obliged to give India any further measure of reform except in so far as was consistent with her ideal of the duty with which she was faced in India. I maintain that she gave the Reforms voluntarily and that it was given and admittedly given only because the British nation realised its duty towards India. This in itself should be an answer to that constant charge that one hears as regards the insincerity both of the givers of the Reforms and of those who try to work them. At the time when we emerged from the Great War our Navy, our Army and the Air Force were stronger than before then there was no necessity for our advancing the Reforms. But there was the moral interest. The establishment of this purely moral interest, I maintain, gives the lie direct to the charge that the giving of the Reforms was based on falsity and on insincerity.

Now, Sir, yesterday I think Babu Manmatha Nath Roy twitted the Government with the fact that the Reforms were advancing only in principle and not in practice and that, Sir, seems to me to be the keynote of the situation so far as my friends the Swarajists are concerned. For surely, Sir, the first thing to establish is principle. Instead of floundering around and rushing blindly in every impossible and inconceivable direction we should make up our minds to establish the fundamental principle which should govern us. If it be the case that we are establishing here a principle then we can afford temporarily to disregard the

smaller items of practice which may not be in full accordance with what we should like to see in the best interest of India. Now what is going to happen in the future? His Excellency in speaking yesterday gave us clearly his views as to the constitutional procedure that might at all events eventuate if the budget was thrown out and my friend Mr. Mitter speaking subsequently gave his views quite clearly on what I may call the unconstitutional issue and how it is sure to lead to anarchy. Where I disagree with him is when he says that whether he be right or wrong the future would show. I maintain that we have not got to take up any hypothetical future to answer that question. The future has been answered over and over again in the history of the past; it is true that some in this House maintain that we already have this anarchy owing to the so-called Repressive Laws; I think that form of argument has been exploded; one might as well argue that because there is a fire engine in a street therefore every house in that street is going to catch on fire. Sir, there will be, there may be at all events, anarchy in the land and if that is so it is possible that certain Government officers and non-officials, European and Indian, may, in consequence of that anarchy lose their lives, but it is not going to intimidate the British peoples and the British Houses of Parliament into forgetting its duty or into surrendering to wrong principles. They are not going to be intimidated and anybody who thinks that the British people—that small race of Islanders who have established this Empire here in India—are going thus to be intimidated, is presumably better in his oratical flights than in his knowledge of psychology. I ask the House to realise that their one hope and their best hope of getting for themselves a form of Government more suitable to India than I personally believe Diarchy to be is to try their best and make the Reforms a success that on its real merits the issue may ultimately be judged.

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENTS of AGRICULTURE and INDUSTRIES and PUBLIC WORKS (the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Chuznavi): My countrymen of the Swaraj party have put in motions for the reduction of the entire minor heads and eventually of the entire major heads in every department with the idea, I take it, to paralyse Government and to bring the Government down on its knees. His Excellency the Governor has lucidly explained to us all what actually the effects of that will be and how their irresponsible and mistaken action will result in nothing but actual suffering and privation of our own countrymen and the stoppage of our nation-building departments. If the picture so accurately visualised by His Excellency fails to daunt my swaraj countrymen, and even if in spite of that they adhere to their determination of carrying out this most unfortunate policy of wrecking Government and thus laying the axe to their own feet—to quote a Bengali adage, the logical sequence of that can only be civil disobedience

and the withholding of payment of taxes. May I ask, are my country men prepared to go to this length? I have not the least hesitation in saying that the vast majority are not so prepared. If the minority are so prepared, then I take it that they must also be prepared for open rebellion and revolution.

Now let us assume for argument's sake that they do succeed in driving away the British from the country, will they be prepared to protect the country thereafter from outside aggression and will they be prepared to ensure internal peace and good government? My answer is an emphatic "no." No person outside Bedlam can dream that this would be at all feasible. If so, then what is the use, I ask, of this irresponsible action which can only set back the hand of the clock of progress of our country. I make bold to say that there is no Indian who does not cherish in his bosom the ultimate goal of real swaraj. Let us then adopt the only possible means which can lead us to that goal. I beseech my countrymen and implore them in the name of all that is Holy to ponder and seriously ponder on the consequence of their action. I appeal and I hope I do not appeal in vain to my friends and countrymen to pause and reflect. The words of His Excellency are still ringing in our ears. Pause and reflect. Are you going to achieve what is merely theatrical, merely make-believe, merely play acting or merely playing to the gallery? Or are you trying to prove merely that diarchy is a failure? Diarchy may be a failure. I do not contest that, but I do say that diarchy is not impossible. If it is a failure is it not far nobler to work and get something better than diarchy? It can only be done by the co-operation of all my countrymen in the best interest of our benighted motherland.

I therefore appeal to my friends opposite to take a practical, a common sense and a sane view of the whole matter and of their duties and responsibilities towards their constituents and to refrain from embarking on a policy which can only end in the ruin of all the political hopes and aspirations which are common to us all.

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: I rise to support the motion. If we the Nationalists have thrown in our lot with the Swarajist in this matter, it is certainly not with any desire to lend our support to the policy of wholesale obstruction, nor do we believe that His Excellency's administration will be in the least obstructed by our action. We know very well that the Government of India Act provides ample safeguards against such a state of things. And despite our vote, His Excellency's Government will go on as merrily as ever and perhaps more merrily than if we had voted on the merits of the demands.

That is, of course, the constitutional position. But as has been represented to us, it is certainly within the right of the Governor to be discriminating in restoring or rather to use his Excellency's words, in authorising the expenses. If he so chooses he can surely refuse to authorise such expenses as grants to local bodies and institution for education, sanitation, medical relief and rural water-supply. But this is only possible if the head of the Government runs amock and behaves like the mad man who first threatens the members——

Mr. PRESIDENT: Kumar Sahib, I do not think such expressions as regards His Excellency, "the head of the Government runs amock," and so forth are quite in order.

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: I am sorry, Sir, I did not refer to His Excellency as Lord Lytton, but to those persons who are in authority be he a Governor or the whole galaxy of Ministers who may bring about such a situation, then I should say that they run amock and behave like the mad man who first threatens the members of the family for not joining him in his insane pranks and then to spite them sets fire to his house cutting off the water connection at the same time. But that is not practical politics. I can assure the House that if the head of our administration or anybody else in the British Empire were to behave like that mad man he would be recalled at once, and, in the words of the Hon'ble Mr. Ghuznavi, sent to Bedlam. Then, Sir, if we cut down the supplies the use of emergency powers under section 72D) of the Government of India Act is not the only means of carrying on the administration as usual. There are further and more effective provisions under sub-section (2), section 52 (*a*) of the Government of India Act, by which the whole of Bengal coud be declared a "backward tract" by the Viceroy and the administration carried on as before even without the help of the Legislative Council. So, Sir, it is not at all likely that as a result of our refusing the supplies the administration will be in the least affected. The only result aimed at by us in refusing the supplies is to bring abount a constitutional crisis which cannot but open the eyes of our foreign masters to the realities of the situation.

Sir, we knew from their very incepfion that the Reforms were inadequate and we took them for a mere half-way house. But we were optimistic enough to hope that with the co-operation of sympathetic administrators, we would be able to work them satisfactorily, establishing liberal traditions leading on to further reforms, but the consistent and continuous determination of the authorities to flout our considered opinions, each and every time has shattered our hopes. On every possible occasion we have been made to realise that we are imprudent, irresponsible interlopers. We are tolerated only so long as we fall in with the wishes of the authorities, we are welcome only so long as we bow and cringe and chime in with the official

tune. But we are dubbed as enemies the moment we happen to differ from them or try to represent the real mind of the country. We are said to be offering advice only when we humour and placate; but when we really do advise, the back is up at once and we are said to be dictating. Well, Sir, this is a situation which cannot be tolerated by us any longer. We, the Nationalists, are determined either to work out the Reforms in the true spirits in which we understood them to have been inaugurated or to expose them in all their hideous nudity of form as moulded by the authorities here. We will no longer permit ourselves to be treated as mere veils to hide the clever contraption, but would now much rather tear off the mask and lay bare the reality. So, Sir, we must refuse the whole budget and it is useless to adduce further reasons, for we have found our reasons are no reasons, our sense nonsense, and our advice dictation of enemies. So, instead of a sham, let the responsibility of the budget rest on those who consider themselves the custodians of our peace and prosperity, and on His Excellency who, free from all these impediments, can do just as he pleases.

Sir, some timid, wavering souls scent danger in our action and their over-caution makes them talk of revolution as its logical sequence. Apparently they know not the history of our land nor of revolutions in other lands. Sir, any possibility of revolution would have obviated our recourse to such action. The Government would have climbed down the moment the opposition figures went up in the division list. But on the contrary, if the Government are obdurate and defiant to-day it is because they know that revolution is an impossibility. But we know and the Government know as well that as a result of our action, we can only compel the Government to replace this travesty of a responsible Government by a Government of fiats, ukases and ordinances, a state of things which cannot but aggravate the ever-growing feeling of distrust and discontent. But as we still cherish some lingering hope that no civilised Government can afford to be spiteful, unpopular or retrogressive, we advocate the use of this last constitutional weapon in the Council to rouse the Government to a sense of responsibiliy. And then on the British statesmanship the ultimate result of our action must depend—a peaceful and prosperous country or a country seething with distrust and discontent.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I rise to support the motion for refusal. I do so not in an angry mood, not merely because our resolutions of the January session have not been given effect to, but I oppose this grant on a more general and fundamental ground. I do so as a protest, as a constitutional protest, against an irresponsible and unnatural system of government under which the Executive is not responsible to the Legislature either in general theory or in actual practice, either in principle or in practice, either in broad policies or in matters of detail, a system under which the budget is framed not in the interests of the people from whom the revenue comes, but for

the benefit of other people and for political purposes. I oppose this grant because I feel, honestly feel, that we have not the slightest semblance of a control over either the revenue or its appropriation. We are asked to give our assent to this grant. I do not know whether, it is appropriation or misappropriation, but I know this that we have no voice either in the appropriation or misappropriation.

Now, we are asked to give our assent to this grant, and of course we have to give it on behalf of the people, but are the interests of the people consulted in the framing of the budget? Are the wishes and feelings of the people respected at all or are the people treated with supreme contempt by the framers of the budget. The budget is submitted in theory to the vote of the Council, but I ask, Sir, is there any reality in the system and procedure? Is it after all a popular budget? Can the people spend the revenue according to their ideas and ideals? Who actually holds the key of the iron safe? That is the point. Have the people unfettered discretion as to how the money should be spent, have the people or their representatives any discretion whatever in the disposal of the money? These are the questions which we should face. I should like to have an honest answer to these questions from every member before he goes to vote in either lobby. Do you ask yourself before going to vote whether you really have any control over the budget? If any body in this House honestly feels that he has got actual control over the finance, to him I say his only honest duty is to support this budget. If on the other hand, he feels honestly that he has no control over the budget, then allow me to say this that it will be dishonest and irresponsible for him to give his assent to the budget. Can any self-respecting man put his seal of support on the budget in such circumstances? The question is, can we conscientiously be a party to this budget? It is sacrosanct to us and we cannot touch it. Years ago I declared from my place in this House that so far as the budget is concerned, we, the non-official members, are so many outcastes and untouchables. That is an observation I made about 7 or 8 years ago and I trust that observation is as true now as it was then, but there is this difference—in the pre-Reform days we were no parties to the budget. We came here to discuss and discourse but we had no voice in the matter either real or unreal. We had no vote on the budget. Now, however, under the Reforms we are asked to give our assent to the budget; therefore we have got some responsibility now, but that is a responsibility, I may say, of the most irresponsible character. Our responsibility with respect to the budget may well be compared with the responsibility of a class of people who are known in our vernacular as *Sakshi Gopals*. Are my friends here prepared to occupy that ignoble position? You are nothing more than so many *Sakshi Gopals*. Whether you give your assent to these grants or not, as Kumar Shib Shekhareswar Ray has so beautifully described, the executive government will be carried on as merrily as ever.

Mr. C. R. DAS: He said "more merrily."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: My friend Mr. Das says "more merrily," possibly more merrily, but the question is: Are we to be a party to it? Let the executive government be carried, as best it can be carried on, in the name of those who actually carry it on, but not in the name of the people who have got no voice in the administration. Let the truth be plainly told. I am here for giving my assent to the grant but I have no voice. I cannot imagine a more ignoble position than this. We are out for freedom and our fight is with those who are responsible for this budget—the framers of it. If at the present moment anybody stands in the way of our progress it is those gentlemen who are the framers of this budget and that is the reason why we cannot induce ourselves to give our assent to this budget. The budget is prepared, allow me to say, by our enemies and when approaching us for our assent we are approached as their dear friends. "Dear friends, here is the budget, we have prepared it for you. Kindly give your assent to it"—knowing full well that while preparing the budget they prepared it with a spirit of antagonism to the people. Therefore, that is the position; we cannot be a party to such a budget.

Now it appears to me that this invitation to the people's representatives to support the budget is a huge joke. I think that it is adding insult to injury; the injury is there that you do not frame it in the interests of the people and the insult is because you ask the representatives of the people to support it. That is the real position and I say the whole thing is a hollow mockery, just a sham thing; that is the description which has been put on it by unbiassed people. I want to say this that it is enough that we are spectators in this unholy and unjust game. Let us not go further and be abettors and active participators in the budget. These are the general grounds and this is the general situation. This situation has been aggravated by recent happenings both here and at Delhi. The response that we have got from Government with respect to the demands which were put forward recently both here and at Delhi on behalf of the people—we know what that response has been—why, we wanted bread but we have been given stone; we wanted the release of political prisoners and the answer from Government is fresh arrests. So the position is this: that instead of response, satisfactory or unsatisfactory, we have got from the Government a challenge thrown on the face of the people. If that is the position, how can it be expected that we should be a party to this budget. Now, Sir, in order to capture some doubtful people, an attempt has been made to describe in glowing language that a disaster might happen if the whole budget is thrown out. It has been suggested in some quarters that the Council will be dissolved and I for one will welcome that disaster. I cannot conceive of more welcome news to us at the present moment than that of the dissolution of this Council because I

know my people. I know this that the moment this Council is dissolved and if there will be a fresh election, I can guarantee, nay I can bet, that no single member will be returned to this Council who will not support this course—the wholesale throwing out of the budget; of that I am absolutely certain. So far as we are concerned, a fresh election will result in a Pride's Purge of this House but so far as the Government are concerned, I am quite sure it will be from the frying pan into the fire.

Then it has been suggested that the Ministers will have to go, and the transferred departments will be made over to the reserved side—

[Here the member reached his time-limit and had to resume his seat.]

MEMBER in charge of APPOINTMENT, POLITICAL, and POLICE DEPARTMENTS and DEPARTMENT of REVENUE [JAILS] (the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson): I intervene in this debate because it is, I think, the most momentous question that has ever been before the province of Bengal during my 28½ years service in it. We are assured by the mover of this motion that this step has been taken only after the most serious consideration. We cannot, therefore, discard this as merely a political eddy at a distance caused by a stone thrown at Delhi. We must pay the mover the compliment of examining the reasons on which he has made his motion.

Well, Sir, what are the grounds put forward? The first ground was that the electorate of Bengal has demanded full responsible government. In a recent debate I took leave to doubt that statement. I pointed out that one of the main objects of the transitional period was the training of the voter of Bengal and I doubt whether the voter of Bengal is trained and whether he is in a position even now to understand and discuss fully and come to a reasonable conclusion on constitutional issues of this magnitude.

Then what is full responsible government? May I quote Mr. C. R. Das on the subject? He said at Gaya—

> If to-day the British Parliament grants provincial autonomy in the provinces with responsibility in the Central Government, I, for one, will protest against it, because that will inevitably lead to the concentration of power in the hands of the middle-class and I do not believe that the middle-class will then part with that power.

The idea of full responsible government that the mover of this motion put forward, if I understood him aright, has been repudiated by Mr. C. R. Das. Mr. C. R. Das (I wish to be perfectly fair in my quotation) further in his speech gave some vague references to what his ideas of full responsible government are. My point is that full responsible government, as adumbrated by the mover of this motion, is not what is wanted by Mr. C. R. Das.

The second reason put forward was the refusal of the Round Table Conference. Well, Sir, this budget is the budget of the Bengal Government. The Bengal Government has nothing to do with the Round Table Conference. But, because of certain action on the part of the Secretary of State over which we have no control, the administration of Bengal is to be brought to a standstill.

The third reason put forward was the refusal of the Government to accept certain resolutions passed by this Council. Babu Harendranath Chaudhuri among those resolutions included the one for a further transfer of subjects. I think it will be within the recollection of the House that the Secretary of State and the Government of India have both agreed to explore that matter further. The other resolutions passed were those referring to the release of political prisoners and the repeal of what are called repressive laws. No one on that side of the House, who referred to this matter, had the fairness to allude to the recent discovery of live bombs in a certain house in Calcutta. That, Sir, I think, will prove to the members of this House not the existence of a conspiracy, which I doubt if anybody in this House has ever questioned, but the dangerous character of that conspiracy. It links it up at once to the old anarchical conspiracies with the same methods of terrorism and assassination.

Sir, I do not propose to reopen the debate on Regulation III regarding the release of political prisoners. In passing, I would point out that this House has twice rejected a motion to release political prisoners and has twice passed it, so honours are easy. As a side issue, it is surely rather illogical to base a claim to throw out the budget on the fact that Government had turned down certain resolutions passed by this Council and thereby disregarded the wishes of this House; and in order to show their resentment of that conduct, the House propose to put Government in a position of being obliged to disregard the wishes of this House again. But, Sir, it will be disregarding the wishes of the House this time in part. His Excellency has explained that there are some things he cannot do. He is bound to accept the wishes of the House as regards the turning down of the grants to local bodies and certain local institutions. An attempt has been made to pooh-pooh this and say that His Excellency did not mean what he said. But, Sir, the members who vote for throwing out the budget cannot place their responsibilities on the shoulders of Government. His Excellency has definitely stated that there are certain things that are not in his power to do. It is no good the Kumar saying that these things lie in His Excellency's power. It is not the interpretation of the Swaraj party, or of the Independent party, or even of the eminent barrister, Mr. Suhrawardy, that will decide what the Governor can do. It is the opinion of the Governor fortified by his own legal advisors which will decide what he can do, what his legal powers are; not the question what his discretion will be but what his powers are; and so far as these are concerned, it

is no use the Swaraj party and the Independent party running away from the responsibility. For their action on these budgets the responsibility will be theirs and they cannot throw it on the Government by saying that the Governor has power to do this or that.

Coming back to the ground on which this motion has been brought forward, the only question which concerns this province is the refusal of the Government to accept certain resolutions passed by this House. The mover seems to have forgotten that this is a transitional stage. It is surely illogical to attack the Government, because Government has not given full self-government, and then to turn round and attack a particular action of the Government, because Government is not acting on the assumption that it is full self-government. It is admitted that it is not full responsible self-government. No one can contend that there is. But can you put that forward as a reason for throwing out the budget? It is surely not reasonable to attack Government on the ground that under their powers, under their responsibility in the transitional stage they are bound to take certain action and to claim that they ought to have acted as if the responsibility rests with the House. The stage is a transitional one and at the present moment the responsibility for acting in these subjects rests with us. I should be only too glad to transfer my responsibility in this matter to anybody else; but there is no way of doing this; and as long as we have responsibility on us we have got to act as we consider right. Our views may not be approved by this Council; but I claim that the House should give us credit for honesty in our views.

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: With vengeance.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: And that being so, they have no right to attack us for carrying out our responsibility with honesty of purpose.

Then, Sir, there is a small point. The mover rather seemed to imply that we have disregarded the wishes of the House and we have insulted the House by hanging up a notice on the notice-board. For the benefit of those members who are new to the procedure of the Council, I might explain that there is no insult whatever in that procedure: it is the ordinary procedure.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: May I rise to a point of personal explanation? I never meant that the Hon'ble Member in charge insulted us by hanging up the notice, but I did say that the contents of the notice were not in consonance with any respect to this House.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I misunderstood the mover. I thought that he was objecting to the method in which it was done.

The mover has complained that the House cannot dismiss a policeman, but, Sir, what House of Parliament in any part of the world has

power to dismiss a policeman—it is not the business of any House. The real basis for these motions is the dislike of the period of transition: that is the foundation of Akhil Babu's speech, that is the foundation of every speech that has been made, and I think it will be accepted that this is the basis of the desire of this House for throwing out the budget. Well, Sir, how are we to alter this period of transition? It has been laid down by public speakers on this side of the House (pointing to the left of the President) and outside and by public leaders with similar views, that there are only two ways of getting out of this period of transition. One is through Parliamentary action—the action of Parliament at home, and the other is revolution. Well, Sir, I leave it to the House to judge what the effect of throwing out the budgets will be in the way of expediting Parliament action at home (A VOICE: Let us try it). I would remind them that there are many in this House who have a larger experience of conditions at home, Parliamentary Government at home and the spirit in which it is conducted, and they do not agree with that observation. Well, Sir, the other alternative—revolution—has been pooh-poohed by Babu Sarat Chandra Basu. I want the House to consider what is the next step. Mr. C. R. Das, in the speech which I have already quoted, advised the policy of——

[At this stage the Hon'ble Member had to conclude his remarks having reached the time-limit.]

Mr. NISITH CHANDRA SEN: Sir, we are deeply grateful to His Excellency the Governor for the concern he has shown in us and for the information he has imparted to this House. I doubt not that an unbounding love for the dumb millions entrusted to his care, and a genuine apprehension that the so-called representatives of the people have not quite understood the effect of this drastic action has impelled His Excellency to visit us yesterday. There may also have been a desire to preserve for us the rights and privileges accorded by the Reforms Act. However that may be, we appreciate the high purpose which made him come here; but I want to assure this Council, I want to assure His Excellency, and all those gentlemen, who have been showing such great concern in our welfare, that in deciding to take this step we fully realise what lies before us. It has been said that if we carry out our policy, the district boards, the municipailties and some aided schools will not get their grants Well, we had to go without any grants during the period of the war when England was fighting with Germany. Surely if we could go without such grants then, we can go without them when we are fighting for our own salvation (Hear, hear.). I think this dire prospect that has been raised before us has left us absolutely undismayed. We have to fight knowing full well the consequences that will ensue, and I hope now that His Excellency and the members opposite know that we are determined to carry out this programme, they will understand that we are really fighting in grim

earnestness. After all, what does it matter to a man on the verge of death whether he lies on a bed of straw or on a couch? The nation is at its death-bed? We are not concerned with the grants, with the little grants. What we want is a right to live, to exist. If, under the present system, that is denied to us, get rid of this system we shall. Under this system I find that although provision is made for the free treatment of Civil Servants on high salary by Civil Surgeons, the diarchy has at any rate introduced this that the poor man who was getting free medicine before is now deprived of that. I find under the system that although Government has got enough money to transform the graveyard of Delhi into a garden city, it has not got money to pay for the sanitation of the poor. I find under the system that while Government has enough money for the Lee Commission, for the Exhibition, it has no money for Education. Now, this is the sort of thing we are going to put an end to or put an end to ourselves. Sir, it has been said by our friends opposite that we have not counted our hosts, that we are going to lose what has been given to us, but will our friends tell us what has been given to us? Mr. Villiers has said that the Reforms are a farce. I think he is absolutely correct. I quite understand an Englishman who tells me that the Reforms are a farce and who has the courage to say so, because we also think the same.

Mr. EDWARD VILLIERS: May I, Sir, rise to a point of personal explanation? What I tried to make clear was that the Reforms being fraught with difficulties they might be made a farce owing to the spirit of the non-co-operation party in which the Reforms were being worked by the members on the opposite side of the House.

Mr. NISITH CHANDRA SEN: I am glad he has qualified his unqualified statement of before. Anyway, I carefully listened to his speech. I have been repeating the observations of the members opposite as they seem to be very anxious for our benefit that our hopes and rights and privileges are preserved. I was somewhat staggered—it took my breath away—when I heard Mr. Villiers say that the Reforms were a farce.

Mr. EDWARD VILLIERS: Sir, I have already said what I said at the time.

Mr. NISITH CHANDRA SEN: I take the qualified statement, but I believe I heard him correctly when he said also that he was not at all enamoured of this form of diarchy. I believe several gentlemen on the other side with whom I have talked have expressed the view that diarchy is a failure and cannot be properly worked. They give us very good advice and say: "Although it is unworkable work it as a success and convince the British Parliament." How can we work an unworkable system to success? Perhaps it will be better if the gentlemen

opposite will show us the way. What I want to say is that if you are convinced that it is unworkable and that it is a system which cannot be properly worked, why not, gentlemen, joint us and show us the courage of your conviction and say that you are going to put an end to this system? All that I have asked is that we want provincial autonomy to be given to us.

Mr. EDWARD VILLIERS: May I remind the hon'ble member that I did not say what he is attributing to me? As the member is basing his whole argument on an unqualified and hypothetical argument, it seems to me that he is wasting the time of the House.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Sen, it will be convenient if you accept Mr. Villiers' statement and pass on to another point.

Mr. NISITH CHANDRA SEN: I fully accept the qualified statement of Mr. Villiers.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It is usual to accept an explanation as such and not as a qualification.

Mr. NISITH CHANDRA SEN: I accept the qualified statement. All that I say is that anybody who makes an unqualified statement may immediately get out of that difficulty by making it qualified.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You have heard Mr. Villiers to say that he did not make the statement you attribute to him. May I repeat that it is usual for a member to accept an explanation offered by another member?

Mr. NISITH CHANDRA SEN: I accept the statement. But even taking the statement in its qualified form—I beg his pardon—even accepting the statement as it stands, I ask my friend that if he believes that the Reforms cannot be properly worked and that they are not suitable, why should he not come over to us and help us in framing a scheme which will be workable. We are perfectly willing to co-operate with you if you will co-operate with us, but we do not understand the co-operation which merely asks for all and gives us nothing. Sir, I have no doubt that there are parliamentarians, old parliamentarians, people who have an idea of representative institutions and an idea of Government. Well, if they are so solicitious of our welfare, why should they not come over and help us to draft a constitution. Under the swaraj creed, we have not kept back either Europeans, Anglo-Indians or Muhammadans (Hear, hear.) We ask all, whether they are temporary resident or permanent residents of this country, to frame a constitution which will suit us, something indigenous, diarchical or hierarchical, give us something workable. If you are willing to work in that fashion, I can assure you that every member of this Council will willingly

co-operate. It is no use threatening us, it is no use telling us that if we oppose this motion, we will get this or that. We are prepared for it. In fact, and I know at least, there is a strong rumour abroad that some members who are taking a leading part in organising this opposition may not soon find themselves with free people—they may be spirited away—even the hackneyed Regulation III may be put in operation. But that will not deter us from going on with our policy. You cannot dismay us in the discharge of our duties by these threats and I believe they will not have much effect on us. I ask the people on the opposite side to come and work with us hand in hand and frame a constitution.

Another thing, Sir, we are not anxious to throw this budget over. We gave every chance to the Government. When His Excellency came here yesterday, I for one was anxiously and expectantly waiting to hear from him that something was going to be done. Well, people believe in hopes even up to the last moment. What was it? We have been asking for bread and you give us stone. I thought at any rate that after explaining the difficulties His Excellency would say: "I know that the people want the establishment of popular Government and in spite of the idiosyncracies of Government, I am going to transfer certain departments of Government to popular control as has been suggested in this Council by the motion of Dr. Banerjea. The scheme which has been presented by Mr. C. R. Das is receiving my anxious consideration. I am going to make the transferred departments real live departments." But not a word was there and instead of that we got threats. We want to know how long we have to wait in hopes only. If the Government either at Delhi, here or in England, had shown the least inclination to meet the aspirations of the people, there would not have been this obstruction. But unfortunately except vague allusions to points of contact, departmental inquiries and committees in which Indians might be asked to give advice, there is nothing more. Give us something definite. You cannot give vague promises and console us after the experience we have had of broken pledges and promises.

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENTS of REVENUE [LAND REVENUE] and IRRIGATION, and DEPARTMENT of EUROPEAN EDUCATION (the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan): You may be pleased to recollect that at the close of the general discussion of the budget I used a phrase with a certain amount of levity perhaps, but having heard a certain amount of *bevglement du taureav* I did not realise that *démauce du taureav* was going to follow soon on its footsteps. But that is exactly what has happened and we find to-day that the Swaraj party assisted by those of the so-calltd Nationalist or Independent party, those (A Voice: Why so-called?) who now, as has been proved, have been wolves in sheep's clothing, and are really Swarajists in disguise, desire to throw out the whole budget

as a protest against the action or inaction of the Government of Bengal regarding the resolutions relating to political prisoners and the repeal of Regulation III of 1818. Now, Sir, without disrespect to my friend Mr. C. R. Das, the leader of the Swarajists in this Council, or without any idea of personal reflection on any one of that party or other, I cannot help thinking that the party which wants to throw out the budget is rather like a mad bull which sees red or rather shows red. (Hear, hear). Now, Sir, this game of *rouge et noir* is a very different one from the roulette tables of Monte Carlo, or elsewhere, for on it depends either the prosperity of the province or setting back the clock-hand of progress. Let the responsibility of setting back the clock hand lie on the shoulders of those that wish to throw out the budget. (A Voice: We accept the challenge). But let it not be said that we, the members of the Government, or let us not be accused of the fact that we have framed this budget with any dishonest purpose. I say, Sir, it is a foul calumny. Can it for a moment be denied even by my friend, Mr. C. R. Das, that he wants a change in the whole system of Government? If he cannot deny it, I say it is asking for a white bloodless revolution. What is revolution, Sir. It does not simply mean bloodshed. It eventually happens that when you let lose the combustible elements it leads to bloodshed. It may be that the great leader of the Swarajists may have to change his opinion before very long, the opinion that he expressed, the admission that he made when he admitted that there was a revolutionary party in Bengal. But with a certain amount of fanfare of trumpets he said that he had got an assurance from those very revolutionaries that they would not do anything violent——

Mr. C. R. DAS: May I make a personal explanation? I never made that statement attributed to me. What I said was that some of those arrested under Regulation III, made this promise to me. It is not the revolutionary organisation or the members of that organisation that ever made that promise to me.

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is my recollection.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I stand corrected, but it does not take away from the fact that Mr. C. R. Das thought that because there was in existence a revolutionary party in Bengal, that he would do well to sound those gentlemen arrested, if they were for violence or not. What I say, what I mean is this: that if you throw out everything, if you throw out the present constitution that governs India, you must take the consequences and with these consequences you must note the fact that there are at the present moment in this country bombs being manufactured, and that there are at the present moment sinister activities of a party with which I am sure Mr. Das has no sympathy. But if you take that fact into consideration, you will have to take into consideration this fact further,

that when you break down everything, that party to which I have referred may no longer listen to reason, and that that party may in the general mêlée come forward and see what it can gather in the general upheaval. I trust and hope that those who are desirous of uprooting the present constitution and trampling it under their feet, have carefully considered that side of the question.

Now, as regards the budget itself, I have little to say because all the motions for reduction were withdrawn to press this motion for the total refusal of the grant. It is true that my department, the department of Land Revenue, is a reserved one, but it is not equally true that His Excellency may restore everything; he can restore, but whether he will or not, that is entirely in his hands, in his power. But it is also true that any amount out of this revenue budget that could have been transferred to the transferred departments, could not possibly be restored. I thought that Mr. Sen Gupta being a sportsman would have made a sporting speech yesterday, but I was rather disappointed to find that being a shrewd lawyer himself his legal acumen played him false, when he drew a picture of this Legislative Council appointing and dismissing every public servant. From some of the speeches that I have heard, I have rather suspected a lurking spirit of a Robespierre or a Nero rather than that of a Garibaldi or Mazzini. When the Council legislators want to chastise every public servant, or every servant of the Government of the time, I am sure that very few servants of the State would like to serve in such an Utopia; it would not be an Utopia, but a living hell.

Some reference has been made by the last speaker about cringing. Before I come to the last speaker, I should like just in passing to say that not even his worst enemy can accuse my friend the Kumar Sahib of cringing. But some day it may come that he may have to do a kind of cringing he never dreamt of.

As regards the remark of Mr. N. C. Sen regarding the constructive scheme of my friend, Mr. C. R. Das, I believe that Mr. Donald has already had some conversation with Mr. Das and that the matter is now being threshed out by the Finance Member and the proposer of that scheme.

Well, Sir, that is all I have to say, for there is nothing further to be said. When a whole party wants to do *hara-kiri* let them do it.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahmad, Maulvi Ashrafuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali Maulvi Sayyid Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Ramesh Chandra.
Bilkuk, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashley Cooman.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravarti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.

Chakravarty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Dareda Presad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Ray, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Ray, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Saiseswripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Ray Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahbeeb.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Choimuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. G.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dosa, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. G. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Presad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammad, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morena, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. G.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. G. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilall Singh.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 65 and the Noes 63, the motion was carried.

[At this stage there was some demonstration in the gallery.]

Mr. PRESIDENT: I do not want to remind the public in the gallery every day not to make any demonstration. If this is repeated, I shall have the gallery cleared.

6.—Excise.

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: I move that a sum of Rs. 11,97,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "6.—Excise." Turning to the budget figures for last year we find that there is a very considerable reduction, 1½ lakhs of rupees. This reduction is due to the steps taken as a result of the Retrenchment Committee's proposal and an examination will show that it is no unworthy achievement.

[At this stage the Hon'ble the President left the Chamber and the Deputy President took the Chair.]

I would like to say at the outset that the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee are likely to lead to very considerable difficulty and misunderstanding if taken piecemeal, as I am afraid some members are inclined to take them. I would ask members who rely on the Retrenchment Committee's report to consider the retrenchment proposals in the Excise Department as a whole and not piecemeal, for otherwise the position cannot be properly understood. Let me give an instance or two of what I mean. It may save time when we come to the discussions, if we ever do, which are to follow in the next two hours. In paragraph 21 of their report the committee recommended a very sweeping change in the whole of the Excise administration, namely, the return to the system in existence before 1915, when there was no separate excise service and the district and subdivisional officers administered the excise work of the districts. Assuming that this recommendation were accepted the committee deduced that certain consequential retrenchments would be immediately possible. Thus two paragraphs later on they point out that one Deputy Commissioner for the whole Province would be sufficient.

There can be little doubt that if we returned to the system of 1915 we might be able to dispense with all the Deputy Commissioners of Excise except one. On the other hand if we do not, for any reason, accept the recommendation in paragrah 21 the whole position in regard to paragraph 23 is altered. I take this as an instance, but the report is full of such cases. Now what I want to warn members against is the tendency to turn to a single paragraph like paragraph 23 and press for the retrenchment in that paragraph without any reference to the paragraphs on which it is dependent. I shall deal with these cases in detail as and when and if they arise, but I mention the matter here in the hope that members who intend to deal with the retrenchment proposals may perhaps reconsider the questions they intend to raise, for I realise that there are members who have been

looking forward to this budget with eagerness to see to what extent the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee have been put into operation and there will be discussions on these proposals.

The Excise Department has claimed for itself that its administration is annually improving and that its control over alcohol and drugs is increasing and I think there can be little doubt that this claim is justified. The expanding revenue of the department I am glad to think is not due to increased consumption but to better administration. If it were due to increased consumption I should be the last person in this Council to speak of it with satisfaction, but I hope that the increasing excise revenue is a reflection not of any increasing vice in the country but of increasing efficiency in the department.

The first minor head of this demand is Superintendence 6A. Here the budget figures for 1923-24 were Rs. 1,90,000 and the revised estimate Rs. 2,03,000. For 1924-25 the demand is Rs. 1,55,000 a decrease of 25 per cent. of the revised estimate for the current year. Surely everyone will admit that a retrenchment of this extent is a very remarkable achievement especially when it is affected in spite of the fact that our staff is generally on an incremental scale of pay which would normally add to our expenditure for some time to come. As we look down the various items under this head—6A— we find with one single exception, and that only an apparent exception, reduction. as compared with the estimates original and revised of the current year. Thus officers' pay, the pay of establishment, allowance, contingencies all show reductions. In rewards alone does there appear to be an increase, but the increase is only a transfer of rewards from another minor head to this particular head.

Under "6B.—Presidency Establishment" there is a reduction of Rs. 65,000 or nearly 25 per cent. on the current year's original estimate of Rs. 2,82,000 and there would have been more had the current year's original estimate been a complete estimate, which it was not, for there was probably no provision in it for the temporary establishment introduced during the course of the year for the more efficient control of *tari*. It is the provision of this establishment and the existence of the incremental scales and the readjustment of staff consequent on retrenchment and as a result of which some staff was brought from elsewhere to the Presidency that are responsible for the increase compared to the revised estimate.

Under the head "6C.—District Executive Establishment" we have reductions too compared to last year's estimate, but not to such a large proportion. The whole staff of the districts is on an incremental scale and although we have appreciable reductions of staff, the existence of incremental scales counteracts to some extent the savings due to reduction. Nevertheless the position is satisfactory and no one can charge us with extravagance in staff or expenditure in the districts.

The head "6D.—Distilleries" shows a decrease of Rs. 35,000 compared to original estimate of the current year, but for the reasons similar to those I have mentioned in dealing with the other minor heads we have to make provision for somewhat more than our revised estimate of the current year.

The demand that was presented last year was nearly Rs. 1½ lakhs less than that of the year previous and the demand which I am putting forward now is further Rs. 1½ lakhs less than that. Therefore, the total reduction in the last two years since we began to retrench, has been a reduction of over 20 per cent., and this has been effected in spite of the improved scale of pay for the staff; and it has been accompanied by an increased efficiency, decreased consumption but increased control. Sir, I may here be permitted to anticipate possible developments of the debate which will follow. To those who have the interest of temperance at heart and who would like to abolish excise by legislation I offer my heart-felt sympathy. I am absolutely at one with them. I cannot but abhor the traffic in intoxicating liquors and drugs, belonging as I do to the Greatest Temperance Federation of the world, and I made this quite clear in my speech on the general discussion of the budget. But there are limitations to which I cannot shut my eyes. To abolish excise by legislation will mean a loss at once of one-fifth of our revenue and this would effectively paralyse Government; and until our agriculture and industries can give us increased returns to compensate this loss, total prohibition cannot be within the range of practical politics. Even Islam sanctions the taking of alcohol as medicine when the question of life and death is involved. To save a human life alcohol may be administered as medicine. Thus as alcohol in an emergency is necessary for the physical body so is the Excise Department at present necessary for the body politic of the Government of Bengal. Within these limitations which we all must recognise—and I feel sure that the Council will believe me—a Hadji—when I say that I shall spare no effort towards reform. I shall welcome every suggestion which will help towards improving this department eradicating evil and vice and educating people up to that standard of thinking which must precede the final disappearance of the scourge of alcohol and drugs. To those, however, who wish to do away with this Department merely to embarrass the administration in the belief that this will accelerate the pace of our approach to swaraj, I can only say that this will have exactly the opposite effect. Far from embarrassing the Government it can only embarrass our own people, cause privation and misery to thousands of families whose bread-winners receive salaries from this Department. The flood gates of illicit importation and manufacture will be flung open and a deluge of death will sweep over the country. The sacred cause of temperance itself will thus suffer. Therefore I appeal to you and beseech you to pause and ponder before plunging your own countrymen into such a calamity.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 34,800 under the head '6A.—Excise—Superintendence—Other Gazetted Officers,' be reduced by Rs. 14,400."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 10,000 under the head '6A.—Excise—Superintendence Rewards' be reduced by Rs. 5,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,27,000 under the head '6A.—Excise Superintendence' be refused."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand for Rs. 1,27,000 under the head '6.—Excise—6A.—Superintendence' be reduced by Rs. 7,200."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 1,27,000 under the head '6A.—Excise—Superintendence' be reduced by Rs. 7,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,27,000 under the head '6A.—Superintendence' be reduced by Re. 1."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 72,540 for pay of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors under the head '6B.—Presidency Establishment' be reduced by Rs. 10,800."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 5,520 under the head '6B.—Presidency Establishment—House-rent and other Allowances' be reduced by Rs. 1,200."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 30,000 under the head '6B.—Excise—Presidency Establishment—Inspection and Prevention—Rewards' be reduced by Rs. 20,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 3,500 for other non-contract charges under the head '6B.—Presidency Establishment' be reduced by Rs. 500."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 2,17,000 under the head '6B.—Excise Presidency Establishment' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 2,17,000 under the head '6B.—Presidency Establishment' be reduced by Rs. 30,000."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 2,17,000 under the head '6B.—Excise—Presidency Establishment' be reduced by Rs. 7,000."

Rai SATYENDRA NATH ROY CHAUDHURI Bahadur: "That the demand of Rs. 2,17,000 under the head '6B.—Presidency Establishment' be reduced by Rs. 6,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 3,20,000 under the head '6C.—District Executive Establishment—Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors (Transferred)' be reduced by Rs. 30,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 1,35,000 for Travelling Allowance under the head '6C.—District Executive Establishment (Transferred)' be reduced by Rs. 35,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 8,24,000 under the head '6C.—Excise—District Executive Establishment' be refused."

Rai SATYENDRA NATH ROY CHAUDHURI Bahadur: "That the demand of Rs. 8,24,000 under the head '6C.—District Executive Establishment' be reduced by Rs. 40,000."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 8,24,000 under the head '6C.—Excise—District Establishment' be reduced by Rs. 24,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 8,24,000 under the head '6C.—District Executive Establishment' be reduced by Rs. 10,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 57,400 under the head '6D.—Distilleries—Rewards' be reduced by Rs. 12,400."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 9,000 for clothing charges under the head '6D.—Distilleries' be reduced by Rs. 900."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 2,14,000 under the head '6D.—Excise—Distilleries' be refused."

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: I have the honour to move the motion that stands in my name, namely, that the demand of Rs. 11,97,000 under the head "6.—Excise" be refused.

I beg formally to move this motion and reserve my remarks for a later occasion.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ spoke in Bengali in support of the motion.

[At this stage the Hon'ble the President returned to the Chair.]

Maulvi SAYEDUL HOQUE: In supporting the motion for the refusal of the total demand for grant under the head "Excise," I wish to make it perfectly clear that the maintenance of this department is gradually and most remarkably falling out of date. To mention one example only, without referring to the Islamic countries, the United States of America has forbidden the drinking of liquórs by legislation. But look here, the excise revenue of the Government of Bengal swells by more than 19 lakhs within these three or four years; and it would have been some lakhs more had it not been due to the non-co-operation movement as has been expressed by our Hon'ble Friend the Finance Member. Our Bengal Government is employing improved means of administration to see that the liquor shops are kept open even after the sunset and also to offer every chance and opportunity to the people to get free access into the liquor shops. This spirit of things cannot be tolerated a moment longer. By refusing this demand, we, the people's representatives here, have decided to express in clearest possible terms that the people emphatically disapprove the present system of Government, which is more after the interest of others than those who subscribe to the funds of the Government. How can a people support the Government which never cares to give effect to the resolutions carried by an overwhelming majority in the Council? On the contrary, to the people's amazement new persons are bound down by those regulations which have been passed by this Council to be immediately repealed. If the people's confidence is to be regained, there is no other way left for the people to express its highest indignation towards the attitude of the present Government but to emphatically declare that unless and until the Government concedes to the people's demand, the people's representatives cannot lend their support to any demand made by the Government. The last point to which I wish to draw the attention of the hon'ble members of the House is a religious one. It may be or may not be of any importance to others but sincere and faithful Hindus and Mussalmans would not at all like to see liquor shops and the like briskly faring but would very much like all such machinery setting all the liqour shops at work standing still. I am confident that all members of the House will share the same opinion with me. I know not of any religion which encourages the drinking of intoxicatiug liquors. So I find no reason why Hindus, Mussalmans, Christians and all should not combine together and make it a common cause to see the working of this irreligious department closed down and forbid the use of all kinds of

intoxicating drugs by legislation. With these words I support the motion.

Babu SARAT CHANDRA BASU: After what has happened in the debate on the last subject I do not consider it necessary to say anything at any length upon the matter which we have now got in hand. This is one of the transferred subjects and therefore it requires graver consideration from the members of the House than the last one. Yesterday His Excellency the Governor told us as to what consequences might follow if these grants are disallowed by the House; and one of the consequences that had been reiterated by His Excellency was that with reference to the transferred subjects he had no power to deal with the expenditure that are put forth for the consideration of the House. We have been told to-day that this is the legal advice that has been given to the Government on the subject. Mr. President, you will kindly permit me to read the two provisos to section 72D (2) of the Government of India Act. The first proviso says that "The Local Government shall have power in relation to any such demand, to act as if it had been assented to, notwithstanding the withholding of such assent or the reduction of the amount therein referred to, if the demand relates to a reserved subject, and the Governor certifies that the expenditure provided for by the demand is essential to the discharge of his responsibility for the subject," and we had it from His Excellency that with reference to the reserved subjects he has got ample jurisdiction to authorise any expenditure that he may deem necessary. Then proviso (*b*) says that "The Government shall have power, in cases of emergency, to authorise such expenditure as may be, in his opinion, necessary for the safety or tranquillity of the Province, or for the carrying on of any department." Now under this proviso His Excellency has told us that he is powerless. I for myself, Mr. President, do not see how His Excellency the Governor is shorn of his jurisdiction with reference to the transferred subjects. The section authorises the Governor, in cases of emergency, to order any expenditure that may be necessary for the carrying on of any department. There has been no definition of the word "department," nor has there been any qualification or restriction of that word. A department is a department of Government and the ordinary dictionary meaning is that it is a branch and in case of Government it is a branch of Government. If an expenditure relating to the transferred subjects be expenditure which a Government is called upon to meet, it will be well within the department of Government with respect to which His Excellency will have all possible jurisdiction to authorise if he considers fit. I cannot agree with the legal advice that has been given to the Government on the subject, namely, that this "department" has got a restricted meaning. Mr. President, you will know, Sir, that in reading a Statute you must read it as it is. You cannot incorporate words there which do not find a place: So that when we have got the word "department" we know for certain that within that word would come in all possible departments of the Government in the

absence of any restrictive clause to limit, qualify or cut down the meaning of that word. I for myself, therefore, have no apprehension that the hands of the Government will be fettered if any of the demands regarding the transferred subjects be disallowed by the House, and I agree with my friend, the Kumar Sahib, that the Government will go merrily along with these subjects as if there had been no vote one way or the other, and if the opinion of the Government legal advisor be to the contrary, I must say that I cannot congratulate the Government on the advice thus given.

SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE and INDUSTRIES (Mr. J. T. Donovan): Sir, are we now discussing the Excise budget or the legal advisors of Government?

Mr. PRESIDENT: We are now discussing the motion that the demand for Excise be refused. Mr. Basu as a legal practitioner must know that legal opinion is not always accepted as correct and that even his own advice may not be sometimes accepted as correct.

Babu SARAT CHANDRA BASU: What I submit to you is that by rejecting a demand for a transferred subject, there need not be any apprehension that any of the matters which call for expenditure will be at a standstill. So we need not have any apprehension that there will be any obstacle in the way of giving grants-in-aid to schools or to such institutions as the Dacca University which may especially appeal to my Muhammadan friends in the House and I consider, therefore, that without the slightest apprehension of untoward consequences, we may do away with the diarchical system and leave the Government to go on as it pleases with reference to these matters. Upon these considerations, Mr. President, I for myself would call upon the House to accept the motion and reject the grant.

Mr. S. C. MUKERJI: I think it is quite definitely known that I have definite views about Excise and the excise policy of Government and I have expressed them in no uncertain terms. But I have also made it clear that I am never in favour of introducing any revolutionary or drastic change—a change which will bring the administrative machinery to a standstill. But, Sir, in this Council in this session we are not discussing the budget on its merits—we are not discussing land revenue or excise or education or sanitation or anything of the kind on their merits. The whole budget is being discussed and fought out on one particular constitutional issue and that constitutional issue is whether the present system of administration should be allowed to go on or whether it should be smashed into atoms. That is the clear issue before this House and therefore I do not wish to enter into the excise policy of Government. I wish to make my position perfectly clear so that my position may not be misconstrued and misinterpreted by the

country at large. I do not really understand the force of logic of some of my friends opposite. That wonderful logic consists in this: Let us go on throwing out the budget *in toto* but let His Excellency be on his guard and be very very careful not to throw out everything but to take every care to restore where it is possible to restore anything. Really, Sir, this logic does not appeal to me. Either I am too obtuse—too dull to understand the force of this logic or otherwise it seems to me that the throwing out of the budget is a big hollow sham. Throw out the budget saying that you are convinced that this budget ought to be thrown out, that deadlock must be brought into existence and that the administrative machinery must be brought to a standstill. But at the same time to hope that His Excellency will come to your rescue and take the transferred departments in his hands and to appeal to His Excellency that he should take good precious care to restore everything where such restoration is possible under the Government of India Act shows a mentality which is any thing but explicable. I cannot conceive of anything more farcical and more nonsensical.

Maulvi ABDUL GAFUR: I would only say a few words with regard to the subject-matter under discussion. My friend on the other side has charged us with inconsistency. He also does not see any logic in our programme. We may assure my friend that we, the Swarajists, have no desire to create a deadlock in the administrative machinery of the Government. Such a deadlock, I may assure my friend opposite, will never be brought about, because His Excellency the Governor has got power to run the administration as he likes. Therefore, by our obstructive policy we will be able to show that the administration of the Government is not carried on with the wishes and assistance of the people. This is our programme definite, consistent and logical. Therefore, I appeal to the members of the House, and particularly to my Muhammadan friends—and I am confident that my appeal to them will not go in vain—to reject this demand for excise altogether. The Quoran says it is *Haram*.

Mr. J. CAMPBELL FORRESTER: I have followed closely this debate and I personally do not think anything can be gained by a show of temper. Perhaps yesterday, the Hon'ble Maulvi Fazl-ul-Huq remembered the old saying that men blush not for the injuries which they inflict but for those which they receive. Therefore the only way to act was to return them tit for tat. The attitude of the opposition reminds me of " a child who whenever his mother thwarted him said, ah! I see it is mother, that is naughty " and I fear that is the logical position of the opposition although not expressed with such simplicity. It is sad to reflect how often by simply doing good to one another, man might attain with facility objects which they attain with infinite difficulty and sometimes entirely fail to attain by wronging one another. Mr. Sen Gupta has said he will not be a party to diarchy but wishes a

Round-Table Conference. I fear the method that is being practised to attain that object will entirely defeat its purpose. Let me inform the members opposite that it is not India that will grant you full responsible Government but Britain and they are watching carefully the present agitation—they are watching the policy of obstruction—they are taking note of the refusal of the Swarajists to help to carry on the present Government. The Britisher is noted throughout the world as being a true sport. He hates injustice and if an injustice is done it is remedied in time, but he will not be coerced, and let me appeal to the members opposite to change their tactics before it is too late. Had Mr. C. R .Das formed a Ministry when he was asked by His Excellency, he would have taken one of the greatest steps forward towards realising his ambition than has up to now been taken by the Swarajist party. The great British-speaking races would have applauded their sense of appreciation, would have been touched and the opportunity thus given them to show their power could have been carefully and diplomatically used—until that great British-speaking race would with one accord allowed you, full self-government. If you dispassionately look at the position—eradicate self from the scene and think only of the millions and what is best for them. Surely your party cannot honestly say that they are fitted by practical experience to carry on succesfully the great ramifications of the Government of such vast dominions. Why, Sir, if you take our big mercantile firms here in Calcutta, they by a careful process have gradually built up these huge business concerns, see how carefully they guard them—do you think they would put a person at the head of these establishments who had only a few years' experience. No. It generally takes about a quarter of a century before the Companies consider that their men are fit to take complete control. If that is so in a Merchants' business—I would ask you, are the British Government doing you a grave injustice by asking you to wait ten years before taking control of this great Country? See what is means—you have an unsurmountable caste system. We, in Europe, have about 60 tongues spoken on the Continent of Europe. One cannot by any stretch of imagination conceive a vast varied continent being ruled by an inexperienced Government nor even an experienced Government successfully. In India, here you have over a hundred and forty different tongues over and above that yon have at least three hundred dialects which are so distinct that for all purposes they may be called different tongues. Sir, do the Swarajist party mean to state seriously that they have knowledge and power to successfully govern this wonderful vast varied collosal country covering more than one million eight hundred and thirty-five thousand square miles? Sir, I think the House will agree with me when I say it is not so much self-government that the people want—but education, irrigation, and railways. When I hear the members in opposition talking so glibly about the democracy wanting self-determination, my mind travels to the field, and I see the vast Indian raiyats peacefully

ploughing their fields and perhaps in the majority of the case have not heard about the clever and enthusiastic Mr. C. R. Das. The majority of them know little and nothing of the strife that is going on around them and if they did they would not understand it when they are articulate, then I am sure this House will listen with the keenest interest to what the democracy has to say. But surely you cannot expect us to be much impressed with the word " democracy " in India at present where only 5 per cent. of the Indian population can read and write and less than 3 per cent. can be classed as educated.

Sir, I have heard so frequently in this House how frequently the British have treated the Indians unjustly but it shows what a tolerant race we are when we seldom or ever have shown how Indians unjustly treat the British. Here is one illustration of how the jute business is carried on in some up-country agencies and perhaps it is somewhat appropriate to bring it in now that I understand the Swarajists are stating that they have shown the raiyats how to make profits out of jute by restricting sowing evidently forgetting that the prosperity of the jute trade depends entirely on its cheapness. It is practically the wrapping material of the world and you can understand wrapping material must not be expensive, otherwise other wrapping material would take its place. It is said that Europeans exploit the cultivators. Never was there a greater fallacy. The Europeans who have up-country agencies where they buy the jute from the raiyats or rather the *Beparies* will enter into an arrangement with these *Beparies* whereby he agrees to bring the European merchants so many maunds of jute at a price. If the market remains stationary, the Europeans will get his jute. Should it fall then they bring more than the quantity arranged for, but should the market jump up Re: 1 per maund you neither see the *Beparies*, your advance money, nor your jute.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You need not go into those details.

Mr. J. CAMPBELL FORRESTER: I am sorry Sir, I was elaborating my point. I appeal to the Swaraj party. I know I will appeal in vain, but there is no man who thinks out the present problem who loves his fellow-man, but must raise his voice in protest against the actions of the Swarajist party for whatever may be said. We know where they will ultimately lead to. I fear it will lead to a position that will be pregnant with misery of every kind, perhaps its footsteps will be marked with blood, slaughter, persecution and devastation, and when the end comes the mischief that has been done will recoil on the unhappy people of the country and what will they have to say to those who have been the instruments by which this terrible state of affairs were brought about. Let me remind the Swarajist that the best Government is that which teaches us to govern ourselves. Voltaire has said a republic is not founded on virtue but on the ambition of its citizens.

May I say to Mr. C. R. Das that to preserve the life of citizens is the greatest virtue in the father of his Country and in the charge of Government. The poor seldom change anything except the name of their masters.

I cannot conceive that a party with such traditions especially the followers of Buddha who proclaimed the equality and the brotherhood of man and suppression of all passions by temperance, chastity, kindness, brotherly love, the body and the senses are brought under subjection, should foster these conditions that are sowing racial feeling and hatred. I would ask him to go cautiously and remember they may be approaching rocks whereon the greatest men have often been wrecked.

Babu JOGINDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVORTI: I entirely agree with my friend who just spoke that the question we are considering in this House is purely a constitutional one as to whether we should pass this budget or not. One of my friends has made the point perfectly clear that we are not discussing the budget on its merits but we are discussing the constitutional issue involved in it. I think that is the proper view that should be taken when considering the motions for refusal of grants. Sir, in connection with the transferred departments, a question has been raised as to what would happen if this Council would choose to reject the budget grants on those departments. We have had the advantage of listening to a very interesting speech of His Excellency the Governor yesterday afternoon. His Excellency has made the point perfectly clear to us that, under the Act, as it stands, His Excellency has certain powers, and that, with regard to the reserved subjects, he can restore every single grant in the budget. With regard to the transferred subjects, His Excellency has no power to restore a single grant, although he shall have power in case of emergency to authorise such expenditure as may, in his opinion, be necessary. Sir, the question resolves itself into this: As to whether the ultimate object, which it has been repeatedly stated is the object of Swarajists to attain, viz., to bring about a paralysis in the Government, can be attained in the way in which they want to proceed in this House. Well, Sir, I would remind my friends in this House that at the time when the Swarajists determined to enter the Councils and issued a certain manifesto, it was given out in that manifesto, that it would be their principle to obstruct the Government, whenever necessary, for the purpose of bringing about a paralysis, if possible. We all remember that at that time a person of no less eminence than His Excellency the Viceroy distinctly announced that it was an idle speculation on the part of the Swarajists to think that they could bring about a deadlock in the administrative machinery of the Government. Nothing of the kind would come to pass. The administration must go on. We all know that—we all know what the consequences may be. The Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson has also said to-day that in certain respects the

Governor has certain powers and in other respects he has not got that power.

As regards reference to the constitutional position that may be brought about by any action that this House may choose to take, as has been explained to us, may I ask on whose shoulders the responsibility of that calamity, if any, will lie? We have heard the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan also on this point. He said that the responsibility would be upon the Members of this Council. I fail to understand how that can be. Sir, I say the matter is quite clear. We, the elected Indian members, have no hand in the framing of the budget. We have no control over it. We have no power to make or unmake it. Therefore, may I ask the members of this Council—may I ask the members in the Government Benches, how can it be argued that there can be any responsibility without any power? We cannot make or unmake the budget and therefore I leave it to the judgment of this House to decide as to whether it can be argued with any degree of force that we can have any responsibility whatever, as we have no hand either in the making or in the unmaking of the budget. As it is we are determined to throw out the budget merely upon a constitutional point—merely for the purpose of establishing a question of constitutional issue. Sir, this is the underlying principle on which we stand.

Sir, there is another point to which I shall refer. I ask my European friends in this House to consider this aspect of question from our point of view. Sir, a good deal of criticisms have been thrown at the Swarajya party; and our leader-in-chief, Mr. C. R. Das, has been made the target of attack from all sides. I would only ask our friends to consider what else could we have done—what could they have done if they had been in our position? In other words what is the object that is being pursued in this House with regard to this matter in the budget? The object is just to show that we want to lodge a protest against the view that Government is carrying on its administration with due regard to the hopes and aspirations and the rights of the nation. That is the only object that we have in view in throwing out the budget. It has been said that we cannot paralyse the Government. Perhaps we cannot. If we cannot paralyse the Government, there is another aspect of it which cannot be ignored and that is this that the theory that the Government is being carried on with due regard to the wishes, hopes and aspirations of the people is exploded. If the Government goes against the accredited representatives of the people at large it will lose its moral strength. That is the underlying principle why we are determined to throw out the budget and this decision has been arrived at after a full and mature deliberation. These are the points, Sir, which I ask the members of the House to consider very carefully before making any attack upon the party that is responsible for throwing out the budget.

There is another point which requires an answer. My friend over there has just now mentioned that he does not see any logic in the conduct of these who want to throw out the budget but at the same time cherishes the hope that His Excellency would come in and rescue some of the departments which would thus be imperilled by the action of certain members of this House. Well, Sir, I can assure my friend on the opposite side that there is a section in this House—a section which knows perfectly well that such a contingency would never arise. Whether His Excellency comes in and rescues the transferred departments or not is a matter which does not concern us in the least. We have outlined our policy after mature deliberation and we are going to act up to it. I appeal to the members of the House to consider as to what would be the effect if the budget is thrown out? It will only have a moral effect and nothing more over the Government which is not responsible to the people over whom it administers. Well, Sir, if you turn to the progress of events in India and pass from Delhi to Bombay, from Bombay to Madras, from Madras to Nagpur, from Nagpur to Bengal, from Bengal to Assam, and from Assam to Burma, you will find the same feeling, the same wave passing everywhere. Any one who cares to read the signs of the times may note—and this has been said by several speakers in this House—that the people of the country have lost all faith in the system of Government we are having here in this country and even the Right Hon'ble Srinivasa Sastri also said the very same thing in the presence of the Viceroy. These are points which we cannot ignore in considering the question as to whether the budget grants which are being demanded from us should be voted or not. These, Sir, are my reasons and I appeal to the members of this House to reject the grant.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md. CHOINUDDIN: Two Muhammadan members of the Swaraj party, my friends Shah Syed Emdadul Huq and Abdul Gafur have supported the motion for refusing the Excise grant on two grounds. The first ground is that as the Excise Department encourages drunkenness and intemperance amongst the people, it should forthwith be abolished and no grant should be allowed to carry on the work of this abominable department. I am sure, Sir, Government, too, does not like that our people should be intemperate but they cannot take any drastic action as suggested by my friends, for obvious reasons. Perhaps my friends are not aware that the Excise Department brings to the coffers of Government, I think, more than 2 crores of rupees as revenue. If this Department is abolished where is this Excise Revenue of 2 crores to come from? At present the Excise tax touches the pockets of a particular section of the people, i.e., those who are in the habit of taking opium or ganja or liquor. Now if this particular taxation which touches the pockets of only a small section of the people is abolished and replaced by a tax which will affect the pockets of the

whole population of Bengal, I am sure a hue and cry will be raised in the country. So it is a difficulty which the Government will have to consider in abolishing the Excise Department. I will ask my friends to remember that no Government, no legislation, however stringent, can make a nation or a people moral unless they are made moral by culture, religion or morality. We have got the Penal Code which makes the taking of bribes criminal, but I think it is an open secret known to all that almost in every office corruption reigns rampant. The Penal Code has not been able to stop corruption. That being so, I think it will not be possible for Government to stop drunkenness or intemperance altogether by abolishing the Excise Department or abolishing the Excise laws. Government is therefore compelled to have recourse to other means of dealing with this evil, that is by taxing the consumers of excisable articles very very heavily; by thus putting a restraint upon their bad habit Government have been trying to minimise this evil as much as possible.

You are all aware that America has been declared dry. Legislation has prohibited the taking of liquor there but still smuggling and the illicit consumption of liquor are going on there in full force. This is also the case with China. For several years we have ceased sending any opium to China under a Treaty with China, but the Chinese people have not given up the habit of smoking opium. Even Government officials are secretly managing to have opium by any means they can. Some of them are even said to be connected with the secret manufacture of opium. So what I mean to say is this: Intemperance and drunkenness are all moral evils and as such they should be checked, but it will not be possible for Government to abolish this bad habit unless and until my Muhammadan and Hindu friends—in fact, all my countrymen—co-operate with Government in removing the evil. Government is trying to minimise the evil by taxing heavily those who are in the habit of taking excisable articles, at the same time they should also co-operate with Government in starting temperance movements. Then only may it be possible to do away with the evil.

The second ground on which my friends have supported this motion for refusing the Excise grant is that if they throw out the Excise budget, as they are determined to do, in the case of all the other budgets they will be able to make Government more responsive to their demands. They will get swaraj very soon. But there is a proverb in Bengal *Nebu besi cheeple teto hoi;* which means "If you press a lemon too hard it will give a bitter taste." There is a limit. If you go on villifying the Government in season and out of season, if you always abuse Government, terrorise them, bully them and brow-beat them, Government will not budge an inch. That sort of obstruction will make them more adamantine—more obdurate. They will not listen to your demands at all. We have

already read in the newspapers that the opinion of every section of the British people is that they cannot be coerced by India to do what they like them to do. Sir, the Labour Party, the great champions of Fraternity, Equality and Liberty have said in unmistakable terms—

> You, Indians, come nearer to us, do not keep yourselves aloof from us. Co-operate with us and you will gradually get what you desire to have.

Here also our Governor did not give us any hope that he would yield. From what he said yesterday, from what Lord Olivier said in England, and from what the Hon'ble Sir Malcolm Hailey said in the Legislative Assembly, we are now certain that the policy of obstruction will not make any impression upon the mind of the Government. If that is so, if this policy will produce no good, is it not politic to give it up and think of some other means of achieving your ends? I think Mr. Das, the leader of the Swaraj party must have understood in his heart of hearts that he has made a blunder in choosing this particular means to achieve his end, but having once committed himself he is now only showing *zid* to save his face and keep his reputation in tact, and with that object in view he is having recourse to all sorts of questionable means to secure votes on his side. Sir, it is not a fact that the Muhammadan who have joined the banner of the Swaraj party have done so out of a sincere belief in the cult of swaraj.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I must ask you to withdraw the word *zid*. It is not a proper expression to use.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md. CHOINUDDIN: All right, Sir, I withdraw the word. I have great respect for Mr. Das, who is a shrewd lawyer and a great patriot. I think he will manage his policy in such a way that his patriotism may not be unpatriotic. If he is satisfied that the game is up, that it will not be of any use, let him throw out his policy of obstruction instead of throwing out the budget, and let him co-operate with the Government. Mr. Das is a man of great intellect and is also a great patriot. If he brings forward his resolutions with arguments, facts and figures, I am sure he will be able to make an impression upon Government, and will gradually have more and more rights and privileges which we are so anxious to obtain. As matters stand at present, as long as the Government of India Act is in force—and this Act was brought into operation only 3½ years ago—I fail to understand why we should not follow that Act. It is said that this Act has been enacted for 10 years only and that after 10 years it will be reconsidered and revised. I do not understand why they should show so much impatience to throw away the Act which was passed only 3½ years ago.

Before I sit down, Sir, I wish to refer to one remark which was made by Babu Sarat Chandra Bose. He seems to think that even if we throw out the entire budget our people need not be afraid of losing their

salaries because His Excellency will exercise his special power under section 72D of the Government of India Act and restore what we threw out. But may I ask my friend Mr. Bose to explain to me whether Government is bound to restore it? Does the section say that His Excellency is bound to restore the grants if we disallow them? I pause for an answer from my lawyer friend in this connection. Let him satisfy me that Government is bound to restore the rejected grants. The law only gives him power either to restore a lost demand or to bow to the decision of this House. The decision of the House is that the budget should be thrown out and if he chooses to bow to this decision what will be the fate of those poor officers in the Excise Department, who would not get their salaries? I say if His Excellency chooses to keep quiet without restoring the grant what will be their fate? I think they will go over to the house of Mr. Das and Mr. Bose and if they do not leave their doors unless and until they are paid their salaries, what do you think of that situation?

With these words I oppose the motion.

[At this stage the Council was adjourned for 15 minutes.]

[After the adjournment.]

Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY: I had no intention of speaking on the subject of Excise grant this evening, but my friend, Mr. S. C. Mukerji, for whom I have the greatest respect, is my excuse for doing so. It is with some pain that we have seen the great change that has come over my friend since he came to the Council this session—a change which, I think, is not desirable even from his own point of view. However, I was not prepared, even with the change that we have observed in him, for this evening's vehement outburst from him in regard to this particular question. Knowing as we do and as I myself do, his pronounced views in regards to the excise question, I never thought that because this question has been brought on by a certain party with whom he does not see eye to eye, he should think of speaking against the motion, for throwing out at least this budget demand under Excise.

However, there are some phases of the debate that has taken place here which I have observed with some regret and one is this: A certain argument is put into the mouth of a certain person, which he never used, and that argumenta is smashed with satisfaction to the speaker. Sir, it has been said by many speakers, and my friend is one of them, that the logic of the members who have brought in these motions and who think that the lost grants will be restored, cannot be understood. Well, Sir, I can tell the House that the Swarajists—or by what name you may be pleased to call them, for there are other members who are as much interested in this discussion— have brought in these motions not for the purpose of poisoning the minds of the people. It is not certainly with the object of paralysing the Government that these motions have

been brought by that party. They are convinced and they are prepared to challenge that if a re-election is held upon all these points, then the opinion of the country will be given in no uncertain terms in favour of them. They have not brought in these motions in a sullen mood. They do not care in the least what the ultimate or final effect of all these motions will be. So far as the Governor's power of restoration is concerned, it was never said from this side of the House that if we threw out the budget we did so with the hope that His Excellency would exercise his privilege of certification. It was never said in that way from this quarter. His Excellency himself said certain things about his power of restoring the grants disallowed by us. It is no duty of ours to see whether there is a distinction between the reserved and transferred departments. We never said that the transferred departments budget should be restored just as much as that of the reserved departments. Nor, when the Kumar Sahib said that the Government would go on merrily as usual, did he want the Government to go on in that way. And Mr. S. C. Basu only gave his own reading of the Act. The point is that we object to these items in the budget because the country wants us to do so.

Sir, some speakers have shown solicitude about the poor clerks who will be without their salaries if these motions are carried. If they would at all care to go to them they will be pleased to learn that they have patriotism, even the poor clerks under Government, have patriotism enough to go without their salaries for a few months if they can then bring on a better state of things in the system of their Government. But, Sir, that is only a side issue.

Another phase has been always to take the name of the revered leader of the Swaraj party as if he is running the whole thing, as if he is bringing on all these motions, as if there is no opinion in the country behind the motion that the party has been bringing forward in the Council. It is not so, Sir. If the members of this Council as well as those who are not so, care to go into the country, they will learn the real mind of the country, and they will be convinced that the views which the Swaraj party express here in this Legislative Council are not only their own but their country's as well.

I will not take much time on this subject of the grant which has been dealt with by many others, but I will only say this, Sir, that other considerations apart, excise business is a vicious one, and in looking at it I would ask my friends to be pleased to look at it upon its merits and not from the point of view that it has been brought forward by a particular section of the House, namely, the Swaraj party. So I hope that the members of this House will join us in this matter and throw out this budget grant.

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: I should have welcomed it as a significant and a hopeful sign if the

motions of refusal were based on a real desire to discuss the budget, but since I find that it is not so, I do not think it will serve any useful purpose if I speak at any length in reply. I therefore only move that the question be now put.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chattarjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Hurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boreda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukarjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Ray, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Taraidar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Cholmuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. G.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. G. M.
Farrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ehramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.

Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukherji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 64 and the Noes 65, the motion was lost.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I should like to know whether a member is in order in going into another lobby after recording his vote in one lobby?

Mr. PRESIDENT: The proper course for a member after voting is to come back to the House. I am afraid, however, that I cannot carry my eyes beyond the walls of this Chamber.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: If a member goes to the Aye lobby, can his vote be voted as an Aye?

Mr. PRESIDENT: If he does not give his name to the teller, his vote cannot be recorded. If, however, he votes in both the lobbies, then his vote will be expunged.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand for Rs. 11,97,000 under the head '6.—Excise' be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 11,97,000 under the head '6.—Excise,' be reduced by Rs. 30,000."

Mr. TARIT BHUSAN ROY and Babu JATINDRA NATH BASU: "That the demand for Rs. 11,97,000 under the head '6.—Excise' be reduced by Re. 1."

The motion that a sum of Rs. 11,97,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "6.—Excise" was then put.

Just after the Hon'ble the President declared for the second time that the Ayes had it, Babu Satyendra Chandra Mitra claimed a division.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am sorry, Satyendra Babu, that you are too late. I always wait for some time before I say for the second time: "The Ayes (or the Noes) have it."

A MEMBER: Mr. Das claimed a division.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Did you, Mr. Das, rise at the time?

Mr. C. R. DAS: No, Sir, I did not rise, but I called for a division.

The motion was declared to have been carried.

7.—Stamps.

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of FINANCE (the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald): I move that sum of Rs. 9,62,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "7.—Stamps." This sum is required for the administration of the Stamp Department.

Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN: I beg to move that the demands for Rs. 9,62,000 under the head "7.—Stamps," be refused.

I stand to oppose the budget expenditure on principle and not on merits. I do not call the system of Government under which we are going on a representative Government. It cannot be called so, because the Government is not guided by the will of the people. Those who are ruling the country they are doing it for their own rule and taking salaries and other expenditure from the country. It is desirable that this Government must be abolished and a new system of Government should take its place. By a rule of 150 years, this Government has robbed the people of the country of their wealth. In the mufassal, the conditions of the people are getting worse and worse.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I suggest to hon'ble members that as the general principle has been sufficiently discussed, any further speeches are unnecessary unless members think it absolutely incumbent upon them to say something.

Shah Syed Emdadul Haq supported the motion and delivered a speech in Bengali, a translation of which is as follows:—

I move that the demand of Rs. 9,62,000 under the head "7.—Stamps" be refused. As I have already said in the last Council that there was no such thing as stamp-duty during the reign of the Hindus or Muhammadans. It is with the advent of British Rule in India that the stamp revenue has been brought into being and it is a Royal mandate that we have to pay fees for stamps we cannot but obey it. The result has been dissatisfaction all round. In my last speech on the occasion of the Stamp Amendment Bill, I put in certain items which were not carried in the Council, and those items, Sir, to all intents and purposes, were in consonance with the present situation of the Government. Government are deliberately defying our wishes and if it be the intention of Government to disregard our wishes, however reasonable they might be, it will also be our consistent policy to go ahead with the idea of obstruction in all measures heedless of the consequences.

Maulvi ABDUL GAFUR: I have no intention at all to speak on this motion. What I wish to say, however, is that the Stamps impose a taxation upon justice, and justice is sold. The people of this country

are very poor, and the Muhammadans are especially poor, and the taxation tells upon the Muhammadans most heavily, as they have to pay most of the taxation. I wish therefore that my Muhammadan friends will not vote for the demand for stamps. It touches the pockets of Muhammadans and justice is sold by the stamps.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: I have nothing to say in reply.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Joardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nogendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sanker.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chelmuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazial Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. G.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Dharu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Haji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Muzharrul.

Haq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Haq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammad, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Phillip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Bukah.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It has been represented to me that two ticks have appeared opposite the name of one member, but the result of the division is not affected thereby. The Division List will be posted up in the lobby and if any member finds on looking through the list that his name does not appear in it, he will please give notice of it to the Secretary, and then his name will be entered on the record.

The Ayes being 64, and the Noes 63, the motion was carried.

The following motion of Mr. Tarit Bhusan Roy was not put as it was covered by the previous decision of the Council:—

"That the demand for Rs. 9,62,000 under the head '7.—Stamps,' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Adjournment.

The Council was then adjourned till 3 P.M. on Thursday, the 20th March, 1924, at the Town Hall, Calcutta.

Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Government of India Act.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in the Town Hall, Calcutta, on Thursday, the 20th March, 1924, at 3 P.M.

Present:

The Hon'ble the President in the Chair, the four Hon'ble Members of the Executive Council, the two Hon'ble Ministers, and 129 nominated and elected members.

Affirmation.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Abdus Salam made an affirmation of his allegiance to the Crown.

Starred Questions

(to which oral answers were given).

Electrical Division.

***LXXXII. Mr. S. N. HALDAR:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Public Works be pleased to state what are the statutory duties of the officers of the Electrical Division, Bengal?

(*b*) How much do the Government spend on this Division every year?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC WORKS (the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Chuznavi): (*a*) The officers of the Electrical Division have no statutory duties.

(*b*) A sum of Rs. 75,315 on an average inclusive of travelling and contingent allowances.

Tolly's Nala.

***LXXXIII. Babu ANILBARAN RAY:** (*a*) Is the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Irrigation aware that the name "Tolly's Nala" given to a river whose water is considered sacred to the Hindus wounds their religious susceptibilities?

(*b*) Is the Hon'ble the Member also aware that the word "Nala" by its connotation encourages some people to pollute its water?

(*c*) Are the Government considering the desirability of changing the name of the channel from Tolly's Nala to Adi Ganga?

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of IRRIGATION (the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan): (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No; the name Adi Ganga is used in reference to the Nala between Hastings and Garia whereas Tolly's Nala is applied to the whole of the channel, some 17½ miles long, between Hastings and Samukpota where it joins the Bidyadhari river: the name Tolly's Nala has been in use since 1777 and it would create considerable confusion to make the suggested alteration.

Accommodation of non-co-operation prisoners in Alipore Central Jail.

***LXXXIV. Mr. KIRAN SANKAR ROY:** With reference to the reply given to my question No. XLV on the 26th February last, will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Revenue (Jails) be pleased to state whether there were other prisoners in the same ward as Mr. C. R. Das, like myself, Mr. Sarkar and Mr. Sasmal, and is it not a fact that they were also removed on account of the insanitary condition of the ward?

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of REVENUE [JAILS] (the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson): Owing to Mr. C. R. Das's illness he and those at that time with him, namely, Messrs. Kiran Sankar Roy, Hemanta Kumar Sarkar and B. N. Sasmal, were removed to No. I yard upstairs—the former for treatment and the latter at their own request to look after him (Mr. Das). After the removal of these prisoners other non-co-operation prisoners occupied the room vacated by Mr. Das and the room adjoining and all of them enjoyed the best of health. No question of sanitation arose and it is obvious that the yard in question could not have been considered insanitary when it was occupied after Mr. Das's removal. The yard is in the same condition now as it was then.

Clinical training to medical students.

***LXXXV. Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Local Self-Government be pleased to state the number of hospitals in Calcutta where facilities can be given to medical students for clinical training?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the desirability of utilising the clinical materials available in these hospitals for training medical students specially in the Shambhu Nath Pandit Hospital, Voluntary Venereal Hospital, the Mayo Hospital, the Police Hospital and the Sagore Dutt Memorial Hospital?

(c) Have the Government got any definite proposal or any scheme before them regarding the Shambhu Nath Pandit Hospital for utilising the clinical materials available in that hospital?

(d) If so, how long have the Government had this proposal before them and when will they be in a position to give effect to such proposals?

(e) Is it a fact that paying patients in some of the hospitals are utilised for the purpose of giving clinical training to the students?

(f) If so, will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state whether there has been any objection on the part of those paying patients to being examined by the students?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq): (a) Four hospitals are already utilised for the purpose of clinical training of medical students. There are six other hospitals in which no facilities can be given to medical students for clinical training.

(b) Government do not consider the six hospitals referred to above including the Shambhu Nath Pandit Hospital, Voluntary Venereal Hospital, the Mayo Hospital and the Police Hospital suitable for the training of medical students. The Sagore Dutt Memorial Hospital is not situated in Calcutta and is not a Government Hospital.

(c) A proposal was received from "the Medical Education Society of India" for permission to allow the students of the proposed "Eastern Medical College" to receive clinical instruction at the Shambhu Nath Pandit Hospital.

(d) The proposal reached Government in August, 1923, and was repeated in December, 1923. On examining the proposal Government pointed out that while they had sympathy with any well-conceived attempt to increase facilities for medical education in Bengal there was nothing to show that "the Medical Education Society of India" could rely on raising the funds necessary for the scheme of establishing the proposed "Eastern Medical College" and Hospital and that until substantial progress had been made in raising the necessary funds and in establishing the proposed institution, Government were not in a position to consider their request. It was also pointed out that the number of beds in the Shambhu Nath Pandit Hospital was 105 which was insufficient to serve a medical college of proper status and that in any case the hospital could afford clinical instruction merely in general medicine and surgery and not in midwifery, gynæcology, ear, throat and nose complaints, ophthalmic diseases and infectious diseases.

(e) Some of the paying patients in the Medical College Hospital are utilised for clinical training to students.

(f) No objection is reported to have been raised by any of the paying patients.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: May I ask the Hon'ble Minister in charge why certain portions of my question have been omitted? I asked certain questions which I do not find here in the paper.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: It is not possible for me to answer that. It is for the Legislative Department to answer.

Mr. PRESIDENT (the Hon'ble Mr. H. E. A. Cotton): It has nothing to do with the Hon'ble Minister, Dr. Ray.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: May I ask the Hon'ble Minister whether he is aware that permission for training medical students was given to the Mayo Hospital?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: Government have at present no such information.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: Will the Hon'ble Minister be surprised to learn that permission was given to the students of the medical college——

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is not a question in proper form, Dr. Ray, and I cannot allow it.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: May I ask the Hon'ble Minister whether he is aware that an application signed by the Secretary, Calcutta Medical Institute, was sent to the Surgeon-General and also to the Superintendent, Shambhu Nath Pandit Hospital, for permission for the clinical training of students?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: Government have no information.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: Is the Hon'ble Minister aware——

Mr. PRESIDENT: If this is another long question, Dr. Ray, it is far better that you should put it in writing. I cannot follow such questions from the Chair.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: But this is a most important question.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Are you asking the questions which were disallowed?

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: They were not disallowed.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Very good. But it is better that you should give notice of the questions in order to enable the Hon'ble Minister to reply. I cannot allow so many supplementary questions.

Unstarred Questions

(answers to which were laid on the table).

Dalhousie Institute.

131. Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Public Works be pleased to state—

(*i*) the conditions under which the Calcutta Trades Association is permitted to occupy the Dalhousie Institute;

(*ii*) from whom the Association obtains this permission;

(*iii*) in whom the ownership of the building is vested;

(*iv*) whether the building is under the supervision of the Public Works Department; and

(*v*) on what understanding public subscription was raised to defray the cost of construction of the building?

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: (*i*), (*ii*), (*iii*) and (*v*) Government have no information.

(*iv*) The building is not maintained by the Public Works Department.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: May I ask the Hon'ble Minister to whom does the land on which the structure of the Dalhousie Institute stands belong?

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: The land is under the administration of the Corporation of Calcutta.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Does it belong to the Corporation? May I ask the Hon'ble Minister if the Government are prepared to make an inquiry into the ownership of the land on which the structure of the Dalhousie Institute stands?

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: I want fresh notice.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Very well. I want to know as to whether the land belongs to some body unknown to Government. Will the Government enforce Regulation III of 1818 if Mr. C. R. Das goes there and opens his office?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order.

Vendors of excisable articles.

132. Babu SUDARSAN CHAKRAVORTY: (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Agriculture and Industries be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

(*i*) how many vendors of Ganja, Opium, Bhang and liquor there are in the district of Rajshahi; and

(*ii*) how many of such vendors are—

(*A*) Bengalis; and

(*B*) up-country people or Marwaris?

(*b*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state whether the number of up-country vendors exceeds the number of Bengali vendors and whether there is any reason for this?

(*c*) Are the Government considering the desirability of—

(*i*) raising the number of Bengali vendors; and

(*ii*) reducing that of up-country vendors?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE and INDUSTRIES (the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Chuznavi): (*a*) (*i*) There are 87 vendors of ganga, opium, bhang and liquor in the district of Rajshahi.

(*a*) (*ii*) (*A*) There are 45 Bengali vendors.

(*B*) There are 42 up-country or Marwari vendors.

(*b*) The number of up-country vendors except in the case of country spirit does not exceed the number of Bengali vendors, as shown in the following statement:—

	Bengali Vendors.	Up-country or Marwari Vendors.	Total.
Country Spirit ..	10	16	26
Ganja, Opium, and Bhang ..	24	21	45
Foreign liquor	4	nil	4
Tari	7	5	12
GRAND TOTAL ..	45	42	87

(*c*) (*i*) and (*ii*) It is the policy of the Excise Department to select as vendors local men of substance and character. It is not contemplated, however, that up-country men who have managed their shops, without reproach, should be turned out to make room for others. It is anticipated, however, that the proportion of residents of Bengal holding licenses will steadily increase in the future, as candidates are now forthcoming from a social class which formerly held aloof from this trade. This development will inevitably lead to a continuous reduction in the proportion of up-country men who hold licenses in Bengal.

Proportion of Muhammadans in Government Shipping Offices.

133. Maulvi FAZLAL KARIM CHOWDHURY: (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Marine Department be pleased to state the total number of employees in the Government Shipping Offices in Kidderpore and elsewhere in Calcutta, who are—

(*i*) Muhammadans, and

(*ii*) Non-Muhammadans?

(*b*) If the proportion of one-third appointments to be given to the Muhammadans as laid down in the Government circular of 1914 has not been maintained, will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state the reasons for this?

MEMBER in charge of MARINE DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald): (*a*) (*i*) Eight.

(*ii*) Forty-one.

(*b*) Qualified Muhammadans have not applied when vacancies occurred. No appointments have been made since January, 1920.

Railway connection between Bagerhat and Pirojpur.

134. Rai SATYENDRA NATH ROY CHAUDHURI Bahadur: (*a*) Is the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Public Works aware that a metre gauge line Railway exists between Khulna and Bagerhat in the district of Khulna?

(*b*) Is it a fact that a proposal was made to extend the line along the District Board road to the river Baleswar just to the opposite of the Pirojpur town in the district of Bakarganj?

(*c*) Is the Hon'ble the Minister aware that the *Bemortakhal* in the Bagerhat subdivision has been silted up?

(*d*) Are the Government considering the desirability of instituting an inquiry as to the necessity of the extension of the Khulna-Bagerhat Light Railway to the Pirojpur town?

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: (*a*) Yes, but the line is 2′—6″ gauge and not metre gauge.

(*b*) A proposal has been made that the railway should be extended into the country lying between the rivers Daratna on the west, Baleswar on the east, and the river Ghosikhali on the south, the alignment to run from Bagerhat to Moralganj *viâ* Badal with a 5-mile branch from Badal to the Baleswar river.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The proposal referred to above has been referred to the Managing Agents by the Eastern Bengal Railway authorities with a recommendation that a traffic survey should be arranged for early in order to gauge the prospects of the suggested extension, but no reply has yet been received.

Question of eligibility of certain members of the Council.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: I rise to a point of order. In view of the fact that the Commissioners appointd by His Excellency have reported that the member who represented the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce has no *locus standi* whatsoever inasmuch as his name does not appear in the electoral roll and that a firm cannot be represented in this House, I ask you, Sir, to notice the presence of some strangers on the floor of this House in the person of those gentlemen who represent in the same qualified manner the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, the Trades Association and the Jute Mills Association.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Suhrawardy, the President, like the Speaker of the House of Commons, has no concern with the question of the eligibility of any particular member so long as the member is certified by the Returning Officer to have been duly elected. It is the duty of such member forthwith to take the oath and his seat, and he is then entitled to discharge the functions of a member of the Council until his seat is vacated or declared to be vacant in accordance with the law. There are no strangers present on the floor of the House, except the Reporters who are, by courtesy, permitted to occupy seats on the floor of the House. I do not gather that the Hon'ble member desires to have them expelled.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: On a point of order, I do not refer to the Reporters at all. May I pursue my point further in order to explain it?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I think my answer is perfectly complete. I have nothing to do whatever with the eligibility of members if the Returning Officer certifies them to be duly returned.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: I understand that. I only press my point from another point of view, and I hope you will allow me to do so. Under the rules no woman can be a member of this House. If a woman has, by mistake, been included in the electoral roll, as was done in the electoral roll of my constituency, and if this woman is properly nominated and properly returned, with or without a contest, and if this woman, after that, comes here and desires to take her seat in this Council, will you notice her presence as a stranger in the House?

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is a question which I shall be quite prepared to deal with when it arises. Meanwhile I would remind the member that it is not the duty of the President to answer conundrums based upon hypothetical premises.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Dr. Ray, with reference to your question, I have had it looked up. I find that the whole question appears in the paper, except that there is only one verbal correction.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: I have seen it, but that was done without my knowledge.

Mr. PRESIDENT: There was no material alteration, except a verbal correction.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: And that I am not aware of.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Do you not keep copies of your questions? Had you kept a copy, that might have saved you the trouble.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: Anyway, it does not tally with the question.

The Budget of the Government of Bengal, 1924-25.

Demand for Grants.

8.—Forests.

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of REVENUE [FORESTS] (the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan): I move that a sum of Rs. 8,62,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "8.—Forests".

The following motions were called but not moved:—

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,77,000 under the head '8A—A.—Conservancy and Works—Timber and other produce removed by consumers,' be reduced by Rs. 10,000."

Rai SATYENDRA NATH ROY CHAUDHURI Bahadur and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 82,000 under the head '8A—A.—Conservancy and Works—VII.—Communications and Buildings," be reduced by Rs. 40,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,04,000 under the head '8A—A.—Conservancy and Works—Organisation, etc.,' be reduced by Rs. 20,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 4,58,800 under the head '8A—A.—Conservancy and Works,' be refused."

Babu JATINDRA NATH BASU: "That the demand for Rs. 4,58,800 under the head '8A.—Forest, Conservancy and Works,' be reduced by Re. 1."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 20,000 for subordinate forest depôt establishments under the head '8B—B.—Establishments,' be reduced by Rs. 1,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 3,62,000 under the head '8B—B.—Establishment,' be refused."

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: I beg to move that the demand of Rs. 8,62,000 under the head "8.—Forests" be refused.

This motion is based on the same principle on which the previous motions with regard to the refusal of other demands are based. I am not at present inclined to add anything to what has been said already, but I much regret the charges which have often been levelled at the members of this House. I sent notice of a motion some time ago to the effect that before the demand was introduced I would move that the whole budget be thrown out.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Such a motion will be completely out of order. There is no provision for it in the rules.

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: It is a pity that resolution could not be discussed, for it would have saved us the irksome task of taking up all these questions piecemeal. It would have put a stop to all intrigues and wire-pulling, for there is evidence of intrigues and wire-pulling——

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, Order; it appears to me that you must be levelling your remarks at somebody; I think you would take exception if the other side were to suggest intrigues and wire-pulling.

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: I did not mean any offence; I am prepared to withdraw that remark.

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: I support this motion.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: I have much pleasure in supporting the motion that has been moved by my friend Babu Manmatha Nath Roy.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I support the motion.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ addressed the Council in Bengali.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I find that the last two days of strain have shown its effect on the face of the Hon'ble Maharajdhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, Mr. Das and others, and I think the House will forgive me if I indulge in a little levity in a matter which seems to be so serious to most of us. I belong to a profession where talking has practically no place, and therefore if I am wanting in expression I hope the House will forgive me. I am in a further difficulty; my party has told me that we are not to discuss the merits of any question; on the other hand, you, Sir, have expressed the opinion yesterday, that since the general aspect of the question has been expressed all round, you would prefer members to take each grant as it comes up and discuss it by itself. I say, Sir, it is rather hard upon me. I was not fortunate enough yesterday to catch your eye, and I could not then let my gas out. Therefore, I shall take this opportunity of presenting a view conceived in a lighter vein which I take of the present question now before us. I myself know nothing of Forests or of their contents, and I do not know if the Maharaja himself knows them. But I wondered where the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur got his knowledge of animals and their habits from. I did read zoology at one time and about animals big and small, about animals with backbones and animals which had none; I also read of the sly fox that met a hen; I also read about the tiny cockroach and the big bulking hippopotamus, but I have never read of sheep in wolves clothing; I have read in the Fables of wolves in sheep's clothing——

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: On a point of order, Sir, might I explain that this was a printing mistake on the part of the newspapers for which I am not responsible.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I also thought it was a mistake on the part of the reporters; however, I stand corrected. Nor have I ever seen a mad bull.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Dr. Roy, after all if the sheep is sufficiently intelligent, there is no reason why it should not wear wolf's clothing.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I have never made an important point of it, but I think the Maharaja Bahadur forgot to wind up his description of the wolf in sheep's clothing by not stating that the wolf in this case has an ass's brain. I shall explain that point a little further, but I do not know whether the wolf——

Mr. EDWARD VILLIERS: The member is so amused at his own joke that we cannot hear him.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I told the House that I shall indulge in a little levity and must let my gas out——

Mr. PRESIDENT: How many cylinders have you, Dr. Roy?

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I don't know, but I think two. I do not know how the Maharaja Bahadur in his description of animals can interweave in his yarn such a vivid description of animals, but I forgot that he lives in Alipore near the Zoo. I now find that he is in charge of Forests, and therefore, he knows the contents of the forests, the animals that live there and their nature. I do not know whether he has ever been inside a forest, but I know he has a miniature Zoo in his Dilkusha at Burdwan.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: May I rise to a point of order? Has this anything to do with the grant for Forests? What has the miniature Zoo at Burdwan to do with it, unless Dr. Roy himself wants to be an inmate of the Zoo.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Dr. Roy, I think you had better try and make a speech on one of two points, either on the merits of the grants for Forests or on the general principle which actuated you in dealing with the motion.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I do not know why the Hon'ble Member is so touchy.

Mr. PRESIDENT: He is not touchy.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: If I criticised his demands I would only take up one of the items on its merits, and would say "why spend money on waifs and strays in the Forests when there are hundreds and thousands of them roaming about in the big wilderness, the city of Calcutta?" However, now, let me not wander from my point. His relations with the British *Raj*——

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: This is another libel which I have always said was not true. It is a foul calumny which I myself contradicted in the Press, and I think the hon'ble gentleman does not read the papers or he would have seen that I had already nailed that to the counter——

Mr. PRESIDENT: Dr. Roy, it is far better that you should not pursue that point any further. Why disturb the harmony of the House? It is not at all necessary.

Mr. C. R. DAS: Is the Hon'ble Member in order in saying that the statement of a member of this House is a lie?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I did not hear that.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I said that it was not right; it was stated in the papers

long ago, and referred to an incident that took place over 20 years ago, and I had contradicted it in the Press. I have said that it was an untruth, and if Dr. Roy chooses to repeat that untruth, he is only supporting what I said was a foul calumny in the papers at the time.

Mr. C. R. DAS: Will he not withdraw that word "lie" Are we not entitled to have that expression withdrawn?

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I did not call the statesment of the member a foul calumny. I only said that the statement which appeared in the papers was a foul calumny.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The point is with regard to the use of the word "lie."

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I did not use the word "lie."

Mr. PRESIDENT: Well, Mr. Das, he denies that he used the word "lie," and that is quite sufficient for me.

Mr. C. R. DAS: I submit that he did use it, but I must accept your ruling.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: Anyway, if Mr. Das thinks I used the word "lie," I am prepared to withdraw it, but I do not remember that I used it.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I must ask you, Dr. Roy, not to pursue that line of argument; if you do, I must ask you to sit down.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I never thought that this laugh would hurt anybody. I was only putting the question from this point of view that in this world we always put our interests first and if there is a difference of interests one party would be pulling on one side, and the other party on the other side. I wanted to deal with the habits of one particular race described as John Bull and about whom we are told that—

The world is a bundle of hay,
  Mankind are the asses who pull,
Each tugs it a different way,
  And the greatest of all is John Bull.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: The only thing about Forests that Dr. Bidhan Roy said was that we should not misspend money on Forests because there are other more important works of utility in Calcutta. Well, Sir, "Forests" is a revenue producing Department of Government and as such, I am sure, every sensible man will support in getting revenue for the Government to be spent on useful purposes. I shall not follow the bad example set by Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy of indulging in a

levity which unfortunately to my mind did not show good taste on the part of the gentlemen who indulged in it, but I should like Dr. Bidhan Roy and those like him to understand that yesterday when I did speak I spoke with a lot of seriousness, and if I spoke about an angry bull I said that with a certain amount of sadness because angry people lose all their patience and become like angry bulls. It is not a question of levity but of seriousness and if you will pardon me just one word of levity I will say that I am afraid that the present temperature of Calcutta in spite of the electric fans in the Council, has created an atmosphere in consequence of which several of my friends including Dr. Roy here are suffering from that malady which we say the March hare suffers from. I shall now ask you to put the motion before the Council.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Toyebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannaer.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haldar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Haque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Sasar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Saityendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sanker.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Alay, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Ali, Mr. Altaf.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Garey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Choinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.

Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dos, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. O. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Salam, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Abdus.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. S.

The Ayes being 66 and the Noes 62, the motion was carried.

The following motion standing in the name of Rai Harendranath Chaudhuri was not taken up as it was covered by the decision on the previous motion:—

"That the demand of Rs. 8,62,000 under the head '8.—Forests,' be reduced by Re. 1."

9.—Registration.

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq): I move that a sum of Rs. 18,49,000 be granted under the head "9.—Registration."

I need not, I think, dwell at any great length on the utility of the Registration Department to the general public. The system of the registration of documents in Bengal is nearly as old as the Permanent Settlement, having been introduced by Regulation XXXIV of 1793. Perhaps the greatest advantage of the registration system is that a man who proposes to purchase a property is enabled to ascertain before doing so how far the property is already burdened with debts or other encumbrances. That the protection afforded by the work of the department has been appreciated by the public is proved by the fact that the Government had to open 409 registration offices in Bengal and that the average number of documents registered in each of the 3 years 1919-1920, 1920-1921, and 1921-1922 amounted to 1,900,811. The receipts for the year 1922-23 amounted to Rs. 24,66,000 against the total expenditure in the same year of Rs. 17,57,000, giving a balance in favour of Government of over Rs. 7,00,000. The present budget has been framed with strict regard to economy. The recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee regarding the Registration Department were somewhat drastic. They proposed the abolition of the post of

the Inspector-General and the transfer of the department to the charge of the Commissioner of Excise. This recommendation Government was unable to accept for two reasons. In the first place, the Commissioner of Excise is already fully occupied with excise work and is unable to take any more on his shoulder. In the second place, the Inspector-General of Registration is also fully occupied. Government have satisfied themselves that it is absolutely necessary to have a whole time officer in charge of the Department of Registration. The other points that arise in connection with this demand need not now be dealt with unless specific motions for reduction or refusal are moved by members of this Council.

With these few words I introduce the demand under this head.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 16,800 for pay of Inspector-General of Registration under the head '9A.—Registration—Superintendence,' be reduced by Rs. 4,800."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 4,500 for travelling allowances under the head '9A.—Superintendence,' be reduced by Rs. 1,500."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 80,000 under the head '9A.—Superintendence,' be reduced by Rs. 16,800."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 17,69,000 under the head '9B.—District Charges,' be reduced by Rs. 20,000."

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: I have great pleasure in moving the motion that the demand of Rs. 18,49,000 under the head "9.—Registration" be refused.

I oppose it on the principle which has been discussed at length for the last two days and I do not propose to waste the time of the House. I simply beg to move the motion that stands in my name.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: We have come here to give a burial to the diarchical system in the Ganges. We want that this budget should also have its burial in the Ganges. With these words I support the motion.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: In the short speech with which I introduced this demand I tried to explain the utility of the Registration Department. On that, Sir, I cannot further elaborate nor can I add any single argument to that. So far as the demand is concerned, it is before the House and unless the House is prepared to discuss the question on its merits it is useless for me to make any speech. With these few words I leave the matter in the hands of the Council.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ali Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Chakraverti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Beroda Prasad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Ud'din.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Sidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr Sateowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Husayn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahbeeb.
Ali, Mr. Altaf.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Choinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharraf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prasad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhushan.

Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Salam, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Abdus.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 62 and the Noes 66, the motion was lost.

The following motion standing in the name of Mr. Tarit Bhusan Roy was then called but not moved:—

"That the demand of Rs. 18,49,000 under the head '9.—Registration' be reduced by Rs. 26,000.'

The original demand was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Ali, Mr. Altaf.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barten, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Caray, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chelnuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cooper, Mr. C. D.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Fyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prasad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Roshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Salam, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Abdus.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

NOES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ali Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra
Dey, Babu Beroda Prasad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haider, Mr. S. N.

Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Waheed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumâr Shib Shekhareswar.
Ray, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Ray, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Ray, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Ray, Mr. Sateewripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinranjan.
Sasmal, Mr Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

The Ayes being 65 and the Noes 62 the motion was carried.

9A.—Scheduled Taxes.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: I move that a sum of Rs. 15,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "9A.—Scheduled Taxes."

Sir, it is the usual charge and we have to spend it in collecting Rs. 20,00,000 of revenue.

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: I move that the demand of Rs. 15,000 under the head "9A.—Scheduled Taxes" be refused.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Bakeh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satyà Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Narendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Loreda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haldar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Waheed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.

Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinranjan.
Sasmal, Mr Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Ali, Mr. Altaf.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chelnuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. D.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharrut.
Huq, Maulvi Shramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. N. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Prevash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaje.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 66 and the Noes 62 the motion was carried.

[Khan Bahadur Maulvi Abdus Salam not being in the Chamber when the House divided and having voted afterwards, his vote was, by order of Mr. President, not counted.]

Mr. PRESIDENT: Before we go any further I have to say a few words as to the procedure for taking a division. I want the members of the Council to be so good as to act in accordance with the Rule on page 277 of the Manual which lays down, that Divisions should be regularly and properly taken. The rule lays down that when a Division is called, the Secretary shall direct the Division bells to be set in motion. The bells shall be rung continually for two minutes and if during that time any member does not come into the Chamber and take his seat he will not be allowed to take part in the Division and the consequence will be upon his own head because the rule says that all members shall immediately resume their seats. I shall be glad if members of the Council will bear this in mind. The rule also says that the lobbies shall be cleared. After the lapse of two minutes the doors leading into the

lobbies shall be closed and thereafter no other members shall be allowed into the Chamber nor shall any member other than those who have returned to the Chamber be permitted to take part in the Division. I hope members will turn up the Manual for themselves and read the Rule which is very clearly and very definitely expressed.

15.—Irrigation.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I move that a sum of Rs. 28,44,000 be granted under the head "15—Irrigation" for other revenue expenditure financed from (*i*) ordinary revenue and (*ii*) finance insurance grants.

The following motions were called but but not moved:—

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 42,000 under the head '15.—Irrigation—Other Revenue Expenditure financed from ordinary revenue—A.—Irrigation Works,' be refused."

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 15,45,000 under the head '15.—Irrigation—Other Revenue Expenditure financed from ordinary revenue—B.—Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works,' be refused."

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, and Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: "That the demand of Rs. 15,87,000 under the head '15.—Irrigation—Other Revenue Expenditure financed from ordinary revenue,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 15,87,000 under the head '15A & B.—Irrigation and Navigation Works, etc.,' be reduced by Rs. 87,000."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 12,57,000 under the head '15.—Irrigation—Working Expenses,' be reduced by Rs. 57,000."

Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN: I move that the demand of Rs. 28,44,000 under the head "15.—Irrigation" be refused.

Sir, Government is very kind to improve agriculture and other things and that is why they ask us to sanction money on Irrigation works. But looking to the fact we find that the Grand Trunk Canal Project is going to be there——

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: On a point of order, Sir. The Grand Trunk Canal is not in this grant. Neither is it before the House at the present moment.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Maulvi Sahib, it does not come under this head at all.

Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN: Sir, I stand corrected. I only want to say that money which is budgeted for Irrigation is spent in this way. So I move for the refusal of the demand.

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: I support this motion.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohan.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Heque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinirenjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Sirendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Taraifdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahbeob.
Ali, Mr. Altaf.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Berey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
[illegible] Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dose, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Parequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Sadridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.

Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. P.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Ray, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Salam, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Abdus.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 65 and the Noes 67, the motion was lost.

The following motion standing in the name of Rai Harendranath Chaudhuri was then called but not moved:—

"That the demand of Rs. 28,44,000 under the head "15.—Irrigation—Other Revenue Expenditure financed from ordinary revenue," be reduced by Re. 1."

The original demand that a sum of Rs. 28,44,000 be granted under the head "15.—Irrigation" for other revenue expenditure financed from (*i*) ordinary revenue and (*ii*) finance insurance grants, was then put, and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Aley, Mr S. Mahboob.
Ali, Mr. Altaf.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. N.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir WRloughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Cholnuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen Mr. D. J.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dost, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. P.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.

Ray Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Visiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. S.

NOES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorti, Babu Joginda Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boreda Presad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Naskar, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Ray, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Ray, Mr. Satcowripati.
Ray Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

The Ayes being 64 and the Noes 65, the motion was lost.

16.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I move that a sum of Rs. 11,30,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "16.—Construction of Irrigation Navigation, Embankment and other Drainage Works."

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 2,42,000 under the head '16.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works' for establishment for unproduction works, be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 4,00,000 under the head '16.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works' for dredging the Lower Kumar river, be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 4,00,000 under the head '16.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works—Improvement of Lower Kumar river,' be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 5,50,000 under the head '16.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation Works, etc.—Bidyadhari Dredging and Bidyadhari spill Reservoir, be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: I beg to move that the demand of Rs. 11,30,000 under the head "16.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works" be refused.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I have nothing more to add, Sir, in reply.

The motion was then put, and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bijoy Krishna.
Chakraverti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Daffe, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Bereda Prosad
Gatur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haldar, Mr. S. N.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr Satcowripati.
Ray Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Hussyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Raju Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Alay, Mr. S. Mahbeob.
Ali, Mr. Altáf.
Banerjee, Raj Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chelmuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. G. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. F. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. G.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. G. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Aliah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes were 64 and Noes were 64.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The number of votes being equal on either side I give my casting vote against the motion as the House will have another opportunity of voting on the main demand.

The motion was therefore lost.

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: I move that the demand for Rs. 11,30,000 under the head "16.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Works, etc.," be reduced by Rs. 1,35,000.

[At this stage the President left the Chamber and the Deputy President took the Chair.]

This motion undoubtedly relates to the revenue account. On referring to the loan account, head 55, it will be seen that there has been estimated a credit to the extent of Rs. 3,12,000. But as the expenditure under the revenue account is adjusted by deduction under head 55, it is clear therefore that if this sum of Rs. 1,35,000 is less spent on works coming under head 16, the loan account will not suffer. If that be the case, then I do not see any reason why the revenue head should spent more to accommodate the loan account. For, of the sum of Rs. 3,12,000 for Rs. 1,77,000 the works on loans will get credit, namely, Rs. 1,62,000 as credit for the working of two dredgers and Rs. 15,000 for land rents. It is therefore apparent that works will

not suffer if Rs. 1,35,000 is less spent on the works under head 16, *i.e.*, the revenue account and to that extent I propose to reduce the demand for expenditure under the revenue account head.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I did not follow what Rai Harendranath Chaudhuri said in connection with the revenue account.

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: If I be allowed to make another speech, I may say that all the expenditure under the head "Irrigation" are totalled under two heads, some under revenue account and some under loan account.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: Sir, is the member making another speech or saying something in personal explanation?

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Major Hassan Suhrawardy): Dr. Ray, please do not interrupt the mover.

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: This motion, Sir, undoubtedly relates to the revenue account. But on referring to the loan account, head 55, it will be seen that there has been estimated a credit to the extent of Rs. 3,12,000. Now, as the expenditure under the revenue account is adjusted by deduction under head 55, it is clear that if this sum of Rs. 1,35,000 is less spent on works coming under head 16, the loan account will not suffer. If that be the case, then I do not see any reason why the revenue head should spend more to accommodate the loan account. For, of the sum of Rs. 3,12,000 for Rs. 1,77,000 the works on loans will get credit namely, Rs. 1,62,000 as credit for the working of two dredgers and Rs. 15,000 for land rents. It is therefore clear that works will not suffer if Rs. 1,35,000 is less spent on the works under head 16, and to that extent I propose to reduce the demand for expenditure under the revenue account head.

SECRETARY and CHIEF ENGINEER to GOVERNMENT, IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT (Mr. C. Addams-Williams): The member who has just spoken is absolutely confused in the accounts; he talks of a credit—a minus figure. He said that the sum has been taken from the Revenue Account. The figures represent the receipts under capital for the depreciation of the dredgers. Five per cent. on the capital cost of the dredgers is chargeable to revenue under head "15.—Working Expenses." On the other hand 5 per cent. must be credited to the Capital Account. This system is nothing more or less than is adopted in every account of any industrial concern and the entries are plus and minus entries. That amount has not been taken from the revenue head. It is an amount which is properly charged to the Capital Account: in regard to the Rs. 15,000 for land, I do not know what he means unless he means a credit for the Grand Trunk Canal,

which does not fall under head 16, but under head 55, which is not the head which is now being discussed. I would, however, add that the item of Rs. 15,000 is on account of rents and miscellaneous revenue collected from land already acquired for the Grand Trunk Canal and that amount cannot be credited to any other head whatsoever.

Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: On this subject, Sir, I should like to make one observation. My friend Rai Harendranath Chaudhuri has given certain figures from which he has shown that a reduction of Rs. 1,35,000 will not be an unreasonable amount. Whether that amount is reasonable or unreasonable is a different question, but what I beg to point out is this—whether the whole of this amount is spent on works of utility or the major portion of it is devoted to the involuments of those officers who in the name of doing work, draw their salaries and keep up an establishment. In certain cases I know that this sort of establishment is kept up not for the purpose of doing that amount of work which the public expects from it, but simply to keep up an establishment in order to go on with some sort of work. Now, there is nothing to show either in the budget or in the detailed accounts how the whole of this amount is spent and I think if there be a reduction of Rs. 1,35,000 it will not be an unreasonable amount. I therefore beg to support this amendment which has been moved by Rai Harendranath Chaudhuri.

Mr. C. ADDAMS-WILLIAMS: This question of establishment is purely a question of distribution under various heads as a *pro rata* charge; it is not the actual cost of the establishment employed on a particular work. There is a certain amount of establishment employed by the Irrigation Department and the total of our estimate for the next year amounts to Rs. 10,32,000. A portion of that establishment which is employed in collecting tolls or in collecting water rates is charged direct to the work on which that establishment is employed, but the Engineering establishment is charged over the whole of the works looked after by the Irrigation Department on a *pro rata* basis. The figure of Rs. 2,88,000 under this head is distributed in that way and as I have said it is purely a *pro rata* charge.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result.

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Bakah, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Sayed Abdur Rab.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohan.
Dey, Mr. G. R.

Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Sereda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinitranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahbaob.
Ali, Mr. Altaf.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Choinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazial Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cattle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. G. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Prevash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. H.
Morgan, Mr. G.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 67 and the Noes 59, the motion was carried.

The following motion standing in the name of Kumar Shib Shekhareswar Ray was not taken up, as it was covered by the decision on the previous motion:—

"That the demand for Rs. 11,30,000 under the head '16.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation Works, etc.,' be reduced by Rs. 5,000 on account of establishment."

Mr. C. R. DAS: May I bring to your notice that some Muhammadan members are now absent? I believe they are now saying their prayers. Might not this matter be adjourned till they come back?

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: There is a special time when the Council adjourns and if any member wishes to say his prayers, he may do so then. The whole Council cannot adjourn more than once. I have therefore to take the division now.

[At this stage the Hon'ble the President returned to the Chair].

The original demand under the head "16.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and other drainage works" as amended was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahbeob.
Ali, Mr. Altaf.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Choinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dess, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammed, Hajl.
Law, Raja Roshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Moreno, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Aliah Bukeh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

NOES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Bakeh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Sejey Krishna.
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdar Reh.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohan.

Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Beroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Naq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jaardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Ray, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Ray Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

The Ayes being 64 and the Noes 66, the motion was lost.

22.—General Administration.

MEMBER in charge of POLITICAL DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson): I move that a sum of Rs. 96,83,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "22.—General Administration."

The following motion standing in the name of Babu Bejoy Krishna Bose was called but not moved.

"That the demand of Rs. 5,000 under the head "22.—Staff and Household of the Governor—Private Secretary—Travelling Allowance,' be reduced by Rs. 1,000."

Babu MANMOHAN NEOGI: I move that the demand for Rs. 3,000 for Hill and Dacca allowances under the head "22A.—Staff and Household of the Governor—Private Secretary" be refused.

Now, Sir, the public has no sympathy with this question of exodus. This exodus is, in our opinion, altogether unnecessary and uncalled for. We do not get money when the question of the supply of pure drinking water is concerned and the nation-building departments are starved and crippled; but all the same these officers go to the hills and we believe no useful purpose is served by this exodus. I therefore beg to submit that this extravagance for their luxury should not be allowed and I move that this demand be rejected.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I beg to support the motion of my friend Babu Manmohon Neogi. In this connection I would like to point out that this Dacca and Hill allowance that is given to the Private Secretary——

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I rise to a point of order. To save time I may state here that no allowance is given to the Private Secretary.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It is for his establishment, Maulvi Sahib. None of it goes into the pocket of the Private Secretary.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURI: I mean the establishment; the allowance that is given is an additional income to them. The exodus of His Excellency the Governor and his staff to Dacca and Darjeeling does not in any way compensate the country. The reason for this, is this: in order to placate the feelings of the Eastern Bengal Muhammadans, the Governor decided that he would go to Dacca and stay there for two months, and for some time past the meetings of this Council used to be held at Dacca for one Session; but this has been abandoned for good and we the people from East Bengal welcomed it. The allowances that are being paid are not worth providing for, and at the same time the country does not want that any travelling allowance should be given to the staff or the establishment of the Private Secretary to the Governor. With these words, I support the motion.

Babu KHAGENDRA NATH GANGULY: In supporting the motion of my friend Babu Manmohon Neogi, I beg to say that it is an utter shame that the members of this House should be asked to sanction this expenditure. We who pose ourselves as representatives of the people ought to voice the feelings of the people. In fact, the people as a whole regard this exodus as a huge paraphernalia of bureaucratic folly. This exodus shows the grandeur of the British Raj, but the people who know what things are, know that these things are nothing short of a huge mockery. If the Burra Sahibs of mercantile firms and the High Court Judges can afford to live in the plains in the summer, why should these people go to the hills to enjoy at the cost of the State and why should we be asked to allow money for them to go to the hills to enjoy the summer season there? In a budget in which the grants for anti-malarial measures are of a most scanty nature, we are asked to provide large amounts of money for the hill exodus. I say it is a huge sham and as such we should not provide for it.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: I am in favour of the total refusal——

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Bose, do you then ask for leave to withdraw amendment No. 262.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: Yes, Sir.

The following motion was then, by leave of the Council, withdrawn:—

"That the demand of Rs. 3,000 under the head '22 A.—Staff and Household of the Governor—Private Secretary—Hill and Dacca allowances' be reduced by Rs. 1,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: I am in favour of the total refusal of this demand of Rs. 3,000 under the head "Hill and Dacca allowances of the staff of the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor." As the mover of this motion has impressed upon the House, it is a part of the general policy, which we pursue, to stop the Hill and Dacca allowances and the contingencies of the Private Secretary and other Government officers. In this budget we find that the total amount of contingencies come up to several lakhs of rupees and the travelling allowance to nearly 42 lakhs. Though the item under consideration is only a small amount of Rs. 3,000 for the use of the Private Secretary but we attack it on general principle, because we do not like that His Excellency the Governor along with these people should stay away from Calcutta for a long time. As a Governor, he ought to remain at Calcutta. Of course, he might be allowed to go to Darjeeling for a change for a few weeks only, but that is no reason why he should be away from Calcutta, the capital of Bengal, for a long time. For this reason, I think, this motion has been tabled and I heartily support it.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: In supporting this motion I beg to say that I support it on general principles which our party has established. Besides the arguments in favour of the motion which have been adduced by my friend, Babu Bejoy Krishna Bose, I should like to point out that those of us who have personal knowledge of the visits of the Governor—I do not mean any disrespect to the person of His Excellency—know that when these visits are paid, the people of the locality are asked to subscribe to welcome and things of that sort. This is one of the net results that we get out of these visits. There are also other things, for instance, certain formalities are observed, addresses are presented——

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: On a point of order, Sir, may I inquire what that has got to do with the hill allowance at Darjeeling?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Dr. Ray, this demand has no concern with the ceremonial visit of His Excellency to Pabna or any other place. It is the question of hill and Dacca allowances, which is involved and if you wish to oppose it on general grounds, you may do so.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: I am referring to Dacca where I live. I have stated the general principles, and these addresses are presented——

Mr. PRESIDENT: But we have got nothing to do with that now because the amendment refers to the regular visits of the Governor to Dacca and the hills, and no addresses are presented to him upon such occasions.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: I stand corrected. With these words I support the motion.

Maulvi MUHAMMAD YASIN: Sir, I cannot understand why so much money is to be wasted in this way. When we ask for money for the supply of pure drinking water in the rural areas, we are told there is no money. We get only Rs. 50,000 for the whole of Bengal for the supply of pure drinking water, whilst there is so much simple waste of public money in all other directions; this I do not understand. I submit that the money which is realised as Government revenue is nothing but the blood of the people living in the rural areas mercilessly wrung out from their hearts. You know what a rupee means to a poor peasant; it means more than an ounce of blood, and I submit that this blood should not be wasted in this fashion. The people who contribute the huge revenue are entitled to its full benefit. With these words I submit that the demand be rejected.

Mr. NIRMAL CHANDRA CHUNDER: It is a very small amount, only Rs. 3,000; but a very big question of principle is involved in it. It is this: the time was when everybody expected that we might sanction this grant; but the time is when we look on all men as equal, whatever differences there may be, whether intellectual or moral. This is a paraphernalia which we know the Governor must surround itself with and it is therefore necessary that we should reject this demand. In 1924, there is no case for a grant for the hill and Dacca allowances of the staff and household of the Governor. If the Governor goes to Dacca or to the hills, he must go there only with his Private Secretary and pay for it just as any other private individual does. There is no reason why the State should pay. With these words, I support the motion.

Mr. J. A. JONES: I gather, Mr. President, that the party opposite are basing their ideas on the principle established by their friends, the Bolshevists of Russia. May I appeal to them on that ground; if they desire to do away with the paraphernalia, because they think this is inconsistent with the simple and the revolutionary style of Government which they want to establish, may I remind them that their illustrious chief, the late Mr. Lenin, when he was buried he was buried with the utmost pomp—not less than that of any other European Monarch? I suggest therefore that the party opposite are highly inconsistent in the attitude they have taken up. If they want to be Bolshevists, let them be thorough Bolshevists. To come here and profess Bolshevik

principles, and to run away from the practice of Bolshevism appears to me an inconsistency against which as a political observer I am bound to caution.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Mr. Jones' observations with regard to the party opposite meaning the Swaraj party and the Independent party and his comparison of these two parties with the Bolshevists of Europe are wholly without any foundation whatsoever, such as all statements coming from Mr. Jones always are. Mr. Jones, if anything, is out to vilify the Swarajists as well as the Independents, and Mr. Jones knows very well that these two parties are here by the sanction of a very large majority of their countrymen and not like Mr. Jones, who represents none but himself. (Laughter.)

Mr. J. A. JONES: I represent the Presidency and Burdwan Division European Constituency.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Oh, Mr. Jones represents somebody in the Burdwan Division. Well, for the few voters he represents, we represent a very large majority of the people of the country—(Voices: Question, question.) Question? I challenge my friends who voted against popular demands to go again to the polls and come back here elected to vote as they had been doing. My friend, Mr. Jones has said that if we are to be Bolshevists at all, we ought to be thorough. He stated that the Bolshevists at the time of the burial of Mr. Lenin went in for such pomp as attaches to the burial of the monarchs of Europe; so we ought to allow, whatever it may cost for the pomp and grandeur of the Ministers and of the Governor. We do not believe that the Bolshevists would allow any expenditure under the head of pomp, whether for Mr. Lenin or anybody else, except when he was buried. When it comes to burying diarchy, we can assure Mr. Jones that we shall bury it with all the pomp necessary. In this very Hall—I remember I read in the papers when very young—many members of the European community and a leading member of the Calcutta Bar, I believe it was the Standing Counsel, though I do not remember his name at the present moment, were opposed to a large expenditure, year after year by reason of the exodus to the hills, by the Governor or by the Governor-General. Somehow or other the Europeans have changed their attitude and they are now for spending money on the exodus to the hills. If there is to be an exodus at all, it should not be at the expense of the ratepayers or the taxpayers; it should be at the expense of those who want the change. I know there are Europeans who want a change, for instance, the High Court Judges; if they want a change, they get it at their own expense; their travelling allowance even is not paid by the State; and similarly with regard to other men. If any change is necessary for the heated brains of the Ministers because by living in the plains their brains are upset

and in order to bring about their mental equilibrium it is necessary, very well, let them have that change; but it must be at their own expense and not of the taxpayers. This question has been discussed time after time and I do not think I need go into the figures to show that the tax is not paid and intended for the additional pomp of the Governor. The Governor is very well-paid and the Ministers are well-paid too. If they want the pomp, let them have it by all means, but not at the expense of the taxpayers.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: We are dealing with the hill allowances. I for one thought that this was a question on which possibly there was no difference of opinion between this side and that side of the House. At all events we did not expect an opposition like this from the European merchants who also live here down in the plains in the summer season. I do not understand on what principle these gentlemen justify this expenditure while their own conduct shows that this is an unnecessary luxury. I wonder if the only reason why this motion is being opposed is this: that as the proposal has emanated from the Swaraj party, therefore, it must be opposed. I wonder if this psychological process goes on, at no distant future we might find these gentlemen walked with their legs up because the Swarajist people are walking with their legs below. There are questions and questions. This is a question on which there should not be any difference of opinion. Mr. Jones thinks that there should be pomp and grandeur. Pomp and grandeur in a country like India! I think we ought to be ashamed of pomp and grandeur. When Rome is burning, Nero thinks of fiddling! If you have money enough, by all means indulge in luxuries. When the people are starving, when we are badly in need of money for expenditure in what is called the nation-building departments, you are seriously and solemnly speaking of pomp and grandeur.

Babu BARAT CHANDRA BASU: Mr. President, this is a very small item, in fact, we may say an insignificant one, and I do not think that the time that we are spending over the matter is worth the amount which forms the subject matter under issue. I quite share the surprise expressed by my friend Akhil Babu that this is a motion in which there should be a division amongst the members of this House. I go a step further. Knowing fully well my respect for the Governor and those concerned with the Government of the country, knowing fully well how anxious they are for retrenchment in every branch, I am almost sure that if His Excellency himself had been here he would have voted with us for reducing this travelling allowance. I would therefore suggest very respectfully to His Excellency that he should himself take this matter up for the purpose of showing a reduction in all quarters and begin with his own home. We would humbly ask His Excellency to give an example to all other branches by putting his own house in

order. I therefore submit for the acceptance of the members of this House that as it a matter with which His Excellency himself is concerned, he will be showing an example to the other branches by making a reduction, however small it might be, in his own household.

With these words I support the motion.

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: It seems that there is a misapprehension that this amendment involves a very small amount and that therefore we are using the time of this House very improperly. But that misapprehension is not well founded. This amendment raises a question of principle and the principle involves an expenditure not merely of this small sum but of a very large amount. I have been looking into the budget under this head "General Administration" and page after page, I find that there are demands for hill allowances. On the same page we have another demand for Rs. 3,750. At page 52 there is a demand for Rs. 2,000, at page 55 we find a demand for Rs. 13,500, at page 58 a similar demand for Rs. 4,500, at page 60 another demand for Rs. 1,250 and so on. I need not state all the items, but the total amount in respect of these hill allowances is bound to come up to several thousands of rupees. I hope this House will vote upon this amendment on that general principle.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: After listening to the debate in this House for the last two days during which we have been told that it is the fixed intention of the members of the Swaraj party and the Independent party to which every speaker who has spoken on this motion excepting Mr. Jones belongs, to throw out the budget. I think, Sir, the House will hardly expect me to take these motions seriously. I may, therefore, be pardoned if I come to the conclusion that the moving of these motions is merely a tactical manœuvre and that it suits the party for the time being to spin out the debate. I do not think that I shall be justified in wasting the time of this House by discussing the matter in detail. I shall only say, therefore, that this is the first time, so far as I know that the necessity of His Excellency the Governor—who has to stay here for five years without any leave at all—going to the hills has been questioned.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Nemai Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.

Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Beroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Haque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Naskar, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohan.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Ray, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Ray, Mr. D. N.
Ray, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Ray Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Ali, Mr. Altaf.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Choinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghaznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ehramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Roshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. H.
Morena, Dr. N. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rees, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Aliah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 63 and the Noes 65, the motion was lost.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 14,000 under the head '22A.—Staff and Household of the Governor—Military Secretary—Travelling Allowance' be reduced by Rs. 4,000."

[At this stage the Council was adjourned for 15 minutes.]

[After the adjournment].

Mr. PRESIDENT: Certain Muhammadan members have made a representation to me that it would be very inconvenient to attend the Council on Saturday. I have brought the matter to the notice of His Excellency and His Excellency has been pleased to agree that the Council need not sit on Saturday. Therefore when we adjourn to-day, we shall adjourn until Monday at 3 o'colck.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: In the absence of Babu Monmohan Neogi I beg to move that the demand for Rs. 3,750 for Hill and Dacca allowances under the head "22A.—Staff and Household of the Governor—Military Secretary" be refused.

I know my resolution is sure to meet with a defeat and yet I am going to move it. I knew such a thing as "Hill Diarrhoea" but I first now come to know that there is also such a thing as "Hill Allowance" and "Dacca allowance" too. I do not understand what these things mean and if Dacca allowances are allowed then why should not Krishnagore or Calcutta allowance be allowed. I do not want to insult His Excellency by asserting that he cannot pay for his staff or his household. He is given a handsome pay and out of that he can easily pay those people whom he likes to have with him. So I think this demand is an insult to His Excellency. This means that His Excellency is a poor man and that he cannot pay for his staff and his household. I am a poor man but I can pay for my staff and my household, so I ask this House to refuse the grant to do away with the insulting implication.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: I can assure Sir Hugh Stephenson that when I rise to speak on this resolution I do so not with a view to waste the time of this House. I should like to say a few words with regard to the observations made by Mr. Jones in connection with the last resolution. This resolution is on a par with resolution No. 261 which was moved by Babu Monmohon Neogi. Mr. Jones of the *Statesman* and myself are old friends but coming to this House I am noticing that Mr. Jones has developed——

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: May I rise to a point of order? The allowances under discussion have nothing to do with Mr. Jones.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Jones has nothing to do with these allowances.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: I do not speak of any allowance to Mr. Jones but all that I say is that Mr. Jones and myself are very old friends but coming to this House I find that Mr. Jones has developed in himself the charateristics of a certain character in Dickens, namely, Mr. Dicks. Mr. C. R. Das is always in his head but to-day he has changed his front and like a newspaper editor any political catchword is good enough for him, and in this morning's paper——

Mr. PRESIDENT: We are not concerned in the least with what appeared in this morning's paper.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: I would ask your indulgence for half a minute to explain the matter. I am sorry Mr. Jones should have made some disgraceful insinuations against his friends opposite. I was just submitting to the House that in connection with these motions Mr. Jones insinuated that we were Bolshevists and that even the Bolshevists gave pompous burial to their chief, the late Mr. Lenin. That was a disgraceful insinuation for which my friend ought to be ashamed.

With regard to this particular motion, I contend that the Military Secretary should not get a hill allowance or Dacca allowance. If we have got a costly administration like the English administration, there must be these allowances. But I should like to point out that at no time during the reign of Hindu and Muhammadan rulers these allowances were ever asked for the personal staff of the rulers.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: This is not an allowance for the Military Secretary but for his staff.

Mr. PRESIDENT: This was explained to the member but he has not appreciated it. These allowances are for the Military Secretary's staff and clerks and not for the Military Secretary himself.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: I do understand that but what I am going to submit is that we do not want the staff of the Military Secretary to go about with the Governor to hills and plains like Dacca for the purpose of getting these allowances. How many Military Secretaries or their staff use to move with the Hindu and Muhammadan rulers? This is a sort of administration we condemn, and as I began by saying I challenge the statement of the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson that we are spinning out a debate on this resolution for the purpose of wasting the time of the Council.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: Of course I accept Babu Bejoy Krishna Bose's declaration that he is in earnest in moving this reduction and that he does so as a matter of principle. But I am sure, he will excuse me if in view of the fact that he has steadily voted for

every proposal for refusal of a grant and that he has every intention of doing so under this head also, if in these circumstances I decline to waste the time of the Council by arguing the question. If, Sir, Babu Hemanta Kumar Sarkar desires the House to believe the same of him, I would suggest that he should study some of the arguments on which he bases his motion and then perhaps he might be able to convince the House that he has understood the outside fringe of the matter. I have nothing further to add, Sir.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result :—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Ali Maulvi Seyyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Bakeh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Nuq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Bereda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Heque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Bazar.
Mally, Babu Mahendra Nath
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Nem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Nemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinirnjan.
Sasmal, Mr Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Nuseyn Shaheed.
Taraidar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Ali, Mr. Altaf.
Banerjea, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Nadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Brdridas.

Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Roshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Prevash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morens, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. G.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Attah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 64 and the Noes 64, the Hon'ble the President gave his casting vote against the motion which was lost.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 3,750 under the head '22A.—Staff and Household of the Governor—Military Secretary—Hill and Dacca allowances' be reduced by Rs. 1,250."

Babu HEM CHANDRA NASKER: I move that the demand of Rs. 30,000 for removal of furniture and carpets under the head "22A.—Staff and Household of the Governor—Military Secretary" be refused.

It is not known to many of the Hon'ble members of this Council that year before last a demand for Rs. 50,000 for a similar item was demanded and assented to by the Council. It was then explained that the sum of Rs. 50,000 was not a recurring demand but is made once in five years when a new Governor comes. But now we see a fresh demand of Rs. 30,000 is again made. Sir, it requires no strong reason to support this amendment. A Government, which could not meet the ordinary expenses of its administration and was compelled to pass three taxation Bills one after another in the same session, should not indulge in such luxuries. A Government, which is so impoverished that it cannot grant more than Rs. 50,000 for rural water-supply in the whole presidency, nor can it afford to pay more than Rs. 32,000 for higher education, should not expect that this Council will give its assent to such demands. With these words, Sir, I commend this amendment for the acceptance of the House.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: May I make a suggestion to the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson? My friend Mr. Nasker has moved his motion for the refusal of the demand of Rs. 30,000. Sir, His Excellency undoubtedly knows the volume of feeling in the country with regard to the very small grant of Rs. 50,000 for water-supply and Rs. 50,000 for combating malaria and other epidemic diseases. Along

with these we are asked to pay Rs. 30,000 for the renewal of carpets and furniture for the Military Secretary's office. This money is not for the purchase but for the renewal. Might not these articles of furniture be renewed next year and may I not expect the Hon'ble Member to accept this motion in deference to the popular demand? I hope the Hon'ble Member will accept my suggestion in the spirit in which I make it.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I was unfortunately unable to hear the arguments of Babu Hem Chandra Nasker. The replies I have made on the two previous motions apply in this case also.

With regard to Babu Bejoy Krishna Bose's suggestion, I entirely accept the spirit in which it is made, and I would therefore like to explain to the Council what the actual position is. There is, as the House is aware, a considerable amount of furniture which is the property of the Province, in Government Houses. This does not belong to the Governor but to the Province. It is obvious, therefore, that that block of furniture must be maintained in the same way as an ordinary firm maintains its block account. After a considerable discussion lasting for some years wherein various provinces put forward demands for various amounts to keep up their furniture, Mr. Hammond, now Chief Secretary to the Bihar and Orissa Government, was placed on special duty to examine all the Government Houses in India and to arrive at a decision as to the value of the furniture and what was the right percentage to be allowed yearly for the upkeep of that block account. The percentage was fixed at 7½ and it was decided that 2½ per cent. out of 7½ per cent. would be paid every year for the renewal of furniture and that 5 per cent. should be accumulated for the whole term of Governor's office and should be at the disposal of his successor for the renewal of carpets and other articles of furniture. The total amount of 5 per cent. thus accumulated during five years of Lord Ronaldshay's terms of office is Rs. 90,000 which is at the disposal of His Excellency the Governor for any expenditure on this account at any time during the term of his office. In most cases this money is spent during the first two years because every Governor naturally wishes to renew a certain amount of furniture, carpets, etc., at the start of his term of office. After Lord Ronaldshay's term this Rs. 90,000 was available for his successor to spend at any time. In 1922-23 out of this Rs. 90,000, Rs. 18,000 was actually spent. Last year we budgeted for Rs. 30,000 out of which Rs. 20,000 only was spent. This year the Military Secretary has asked us to provide Rs. 30,000. So it does not matter when that money is spent whether it is spent this year or next year. It is the accumulated saving during the five years of Lord Ronaldshay's office. Therefore if we do not meet it this year it means that we shall have to pay double the amount next year. I think this will explain matters to the mover.

The motion of Babu Hem Chandra Nasker was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Sejoy Krishna.
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Daud, Mr. M.
Dey, Babu Sereda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raiket, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Ray, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Haliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawerdy, Mr. Hussyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Ali, Mr. Altaf.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Cheineddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. G.
Dollig, Mr. J.
Dae, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. G. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Mushagruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. H.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. D.

Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Williams, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 67 and the Noes being 63, the motion was carried.

The following motion standing in the name of Shah Syed Emdadul Huq was not taken up as it was covered by the decision on the previous motion:—

"That the demand of Rs. 30,000 under the head '22A.—Staff and Household of the Governor—Military Secretary—renewal of furniture and carpets,' be reduced by Rs. 10,000."

Adjournment.

The Council was then adjourned till 3 P.M. on Monday, the 24th March, 1924, at the Town Hall, Calcutta.

Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Government of India Act.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in the Town Hall, Calcutta, on Monday, the 24th March, 1924, at 3 P.M.

Present:

The Hon'ble the President in the Chair, the four Hon'ble Members of the Executive Council, the two Hon'ble Ministers, and 127 nominated and elected members.

Starred Questions

(to which oral answers were given).

Cottage Industries.

***LXXXVI. Babu MANMOHON NEOGI:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Agriculture and Industries be pleased to state whether the Director of Industries has taken any steps during the current year to develop any local or cottage industries?

(*b*) If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to name those industries?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE and INDUSTRIES (the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Chuznavi): (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) Tanning (vegetable and chrome) of hides; manufacture of leather goods; shellac manufacture; match manufacture; glass manufacture; cigar making; dairy farming; button making; cutlery; basket making; *gur* and sugar making from date and palmyra palm trees; vinegar making from cocoanut water; water proofing; soap making; oil refining; coir making; bell metal manufacture; chank shell bangle making; shell lime manufacture; spinning and weaving of silk, cotton, jute and wool; dyeing of yarn and dyeing of fabrics.

Dr. H. W. B. MORENO: Is the Hon'ble the Minister in charge aware of the existence of the Bengal Home Industries Association, which is for the benefit of such industries and as such deserve the support of Government?

Mr. PRESIDENT (the Hon'ble Mr. H. E. A. Cotton): The question does not arise.

Arrest of Arun Chandra Guha.

*LXXXVII. **Babu ANILBARAN RAY:** Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Political Department be pleased to lay on the table a statement giving the following information regarding Arun Chandra Guha, arrested and detained under Bengal Regulation III of 1818—

(*i*) why no warrant under Regulation III was issued against Arun Chandra Guha on the 13th January, 1924, the date of his arrest;

(*ii*) why he was arrested under section 54, Criminal Procedure Code;

(*iii*) why was he kept in Police custody from the 13th to the 25th January, 1924;

(*iv*) whether any evidence was collected after his arrest;

(*v*) if so, what is the nature of that evidence; and

(*vi*) whether there is any evidence besides that of police informers?

MEMBER in charge of POLITICAL DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson): (*i*) and (*ii*) He was arrested by the Calcutta Police in connection with a pending case.

(*iii*) He was remanded to police custody in connection with the inquiry.

(*iv*), (*v*) and (*vi*) It is, in the public interests, impossible to publish the evidence on which it was decided to keep him in preventive custody under Regulation III.

Babu ANILBARAN RAY: Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge state whether Arun Chandra Guha was produced before any court before being remanded to police custody?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: He was produced before the Deputy Commissioner of Police as a Magistrate.

Searches of Press and Library of Arun Chandra Guha.

*LXXXVIII. **Babu ANILBARAN RAY:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Political Department be pleased to state—

(*i*) how many times since the release of Arun Chandra Guha from his last detention were his Press and Library searched;

(*ii*) the dates on which those searches were made;

(*iii*) whether any incriminating things were found in his Press and Library on those searches;

(*iv*) if so, what were those incriminating things; and

(*v*) if no incriminating things were found in the searches, why were so many searches made?

(*b*) Will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state whether Arun Chandra Guha was ever produced before any Court?

(*c*) Has any specific offence under the Indian Penal Code been brought against him since his arrest?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: (*a*) (*i*) The Saraswati Press and the Saraswati Library were searched three times.

(*ii*) The Saraswati Press was searched on 4th August, 1923, 25th September, 1923, and 31st January, 1924.

The Saraswati Library was searched on 27th June, 1922, 10th July, 1922, and 13th January, 1924.

(*iii*) and (*iv*) Proscribed literature was found.

(*v*) Does not arise.

(*b*) Yes. In June, 1922, on a charge under section 124A and 153A, Indian Penal Code. The charge was subsequently withdrawn after the conviction of his co-accused who accepted full responsibility as publisher and author of the document concerned.

(*c*) No charge has been laid against him for any specific offence under the Indian Penal Code since his arrest.

Charges against Arun Chandra Guha.

***LXXXIX. Babu ANILBARAN RAY:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Political Department be pleased to state—

(*i*) what is the avowed object of the so-called revolutionary conspiracy of which Arun Chandra is alleged to be a member;

(*ii*) what active part did he take in that conspiracy;

(*iii*) when did he take such active part;

(*iv*) if Arun Chandra is an active member of a revolutionary conspiracy why is he not put on trial;

(*v*) whether he has been allowed to know the materials on which he has been detained;

(*vi*) whether he was given any opportunity of testing those materials;

(*vii*) whether it was a fact that Arun Babu was merely shown a written copy of the charges and when he asked for a copy to answer the charges, his request was refused and that for that reason he did not and could not answer the charges;

(*viii*) whether he has been given any written copy of the charges brought against him; and

(*ix*) whether he was allowed to know in detail how the charges were framed?

(*b*) If the answer to (*a*) (*viii*) and (*ix*) is in the negative, how did the Government expect him to answer the charges brought against him?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: (*a*) (*i*) To overthrow by violence the existing Government in India.

(*ii*) and (*iii*) It is not desirable in the public interest to publish this information.

(*iv*) The reasons why members of revolutionary conspiracy cannot be put on trial have been fully given in the speeches of Lord Carmichael and Lord Ronaldshay and in debates in this Council.

(*v*) and (*vi*) He has been informed of the substance of the accusations made against him but has not been supplied with the evidence.

(*vii*) and (*viii*) He was shown the charges and asked if he wished to reply regarding them but declined to do so. He afterwards asked for a copy of the charges but his request was refused.

(*ix*) and (*b*) *Vide* answer to (*v*) and (*vi*).

Babu ANILBARAN RAY: To which of the two classes mentioned by the Hon'ble Member does Arun Chandra Guha belong? One class of revolutionaries has been referred to by the Hon'ble Member as those who are concerned with active participation and overt acts at present and the other class as those who are contemplating but are doing nothing. To which of these classes Arun Chandra Guha belong?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I am afraid I have nothing to add to my answer.

Judges' reports in Arun Chandra Guha's case.

***XC. Babu ANILBARAN RAY:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Political Department be pleased to state—

(*i*) whether the papers against Arun Chandra were placed before the two Judges before or after his arrest;

(*ii*) what points were referred to the Judges;

(*iii*) whether their opinion was received before or after his arrest;

(*iv*) whether the Judges passed their opinions jointly or independently;

(*b*) if independently, are the conclusions arrived at by both of them identical;

(*vi*) whether the Government are prepared to publish the opinions formed by those Judges;

(*vii*) whether the Judges examined Arun Chandra before forming their opinion;

(*viii*) how many days and how much time the Judges took to form their opinion;

(*ix*) besides examining the papers whether the two Judges had any conversation with any police officer or any other Government servant in connection with this detention;

(*x*) if so, who are those servants or officers;

(*xi*) why were those servants or officers allowed to have conversations with the Judges;

(*xii*) whether the two Judges were High Court Judges or I.C.S. District Officers;

(*xiii*) whether they were Europeans or Indians;

(*xiv*) whether they have ever acted as High Court Judges; and

(*xv*) if they were District Officers whether they were brought down from the mufassal to Calcutta for this purpose?

(*b*) Is it a fact that police officers have admitted that Arun Babu was not connected with any murder or dacoity?

(*c*) Is it a fact that Arun Babu is detained mainly for the alleged seditious publication from the Saraswati Library?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: (*a*) (*i*) to (*xi*) The ordinary procedure is to place the papers before two Judges jointly after the arrest of the person concerned for their opinion whether, on the materials before them, there were reasonable grounds to believe that the person concerned is an active member of a revolutionary conspiracy. The Judges may call for such further information or explanation as they consider necessary. This procedure was followed in the case of Arun Guha. Government are not prepared to publish the Judges' reports.

(*xii*) to (*xv*) The papers are placed before two senior District and Sessions Judges. In this case one was an European and one an Indian, and neither has ever acted as a High Court Judge; they were not specially brought to Calcutta for the purpose.

(*b*) It is not a fact so far as Government is aware.

(*c*) No.

Railway siding, Barrackpore Race Ground.

*XCI. **Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Public Works be pleased to state—

(*i*) whether it is in contemplation to open a railway siding connecting the main Railway line with the Barrackpore Race Course; and

(*ii*) whether demarcating pins have already been laid on the lands through which the said line is to pass?

(*b*) Is the Hon'ble the Minister aware that the proposed line, as laid out by the demarcating pins, runs through the dwelling-houses of a number of poor people and also some tanks which supply drinking and bathing water to the people of the locality?

(c) Have the residents of the affected locality sent a memorial to the Collector of Land Acquisition, the 24-Parganas district, protesting against the acquisition?

(d) Are the Government considering the desirability—

(i) either of abandoning the proposal; and

(ii) or, in the alternative, of diverting the line either a little to the north or to the south as this will involve the acquisition of fewer houses and tanks than what the present scheme entails?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC WORKS (the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Chuznavi): (a) (i) Yes.

(ii) Yes.

(b) The proposed line as laid out by the demarcating pins runs through only four sheds with mud walls and thatched roofs, and one old kutcha-pucca building. It runs through no tanks other than dried up depressions.

(c) Government have no information to this effect.

(d) (i) and (ii) The case will be dealt with agreeably to section 5A of the Land Acquisition Amendment Act No. XXXVIII of 1923.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: May I ask the Hon'ble Minister that when the case will be dealt with under the Land Acquisition Act whether it will be possible for the Government to divert the route later on?

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is a question of opinion.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I want to know whether it is possible under the Act to do so.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You cannot have a legal opinion here, Dr. Roy.

Honorary Physicians and Surgeons.

***XCII. Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY:** (a) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Local Self-Government be pleased to state the present number, names and qualifications of the Honorary Surgeons and Physicians in the—

(i) Calcutta Medical College; and

(ii) Campbell Medical School?

(b) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state—

(i) whether all the Honorary Surgeons and Physicians take part in the clinical training of the students;

(ii) whether they are all paid allowances; and

(iii) the amount of allowance paid to each?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq): (*a*) (*i*) One Honorary Physician—Rai Sir Kailash Chandra Bose Bahadur, KT., C.I.E., O.B.E., L.M.S. (Cal.).

One Honorary Surgeon—Major Hassan Suhrawardy, M.D., F.R.C.S.

One Honorary Physician in charge of Special Department for ear, nose and throat—Dr. N. J. Judah, M.B., CH.B., (Edin.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.).

(*ii*) One Honorary Surgeon in the Surgical Out-patient Department including Special Skin Department—Dr. Purnanda Ray, M.B., F.R.F., P. & S. (Glas.).

One Honorary Physician and Clinical Teacher Out-patient Department—connected with the diseases of eye, ear, nose and throat—Dr. Paresh Chandra Dutt, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S. (Edin.).

(*b*) (*i*) All the Honorary Surgeons and Physicians with the exception of the Honorary Surgeon of the Surgical Out-patient Department at the Campbell Hospital take part in the clinical training of students.

(*ii*) None of them except Dr. Judah are paid any allowances.

(*iii*) Dr. Judah is paid an allowance of Rs. 100 a month.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: Will the Hon'ble Minister be pleased to say why Dr. Judah is specially selected for an allowance while others are not?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: I want notice of this question.

Unstarred Questions

(answers to which were laid on the table).

Manager, Bakarganj Court of Wards.

135. Maulvi FAZLAL KARIM CHOWDHURY: Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Revenue (Land Revenue) be pleased to state—

(*i*) whether any new Manager was appointed under the Court of Wards in the Bakarganj district in 1923,

(*ii*) whether the post was advertised;

(*iii*) if so, when it was advertised;

(*iv*) whether there were any Muhammadan candidates for the post; and

(*v*) if so, what is the reason for not appointing one of the Muhammadan candidates to the post?

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of REVENUE [LAND REVENUE] (the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan): (*i*) Yes.

(*ii*) No.

(*iii*) The question does not arise.

(*iv*) One, a settlement kanungo.

(*v*) Rai Sahib Harakishore Biswas, a retired Deputy Collector, who had previously been in charge of the Wards Department in Bakarganj and was thus fully acquainted with the management of wards estates, was selected for the post.

Distributing agents of jute seed.

136. Dr. MOHINI MOHON DAS: (*a*) Is the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Agriculture and Industries aware that the Director of Agriculture of Bengal has notified that jute seed will be sold to the cultivators through the following jute firms and individuals of Narayanganj:—

(*i*) Bird & Co.;

(*ii*) Sinclair, Murray & Co.;

(*iii*) Sonakanda Jute Baling Co.;

(*iv*) Mr. A. L. Godden, Agent, Steamer Co., and others?

(*b*) If so, will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to lay on the table the conditions under which they have agreed to work?

(*c*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state why among the distributing agents there are no Indian firms or Indian individuals?

(*d*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state the number and names of the reputed firms dealing in jute in Eastern Bengal?

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN GHUZNAVI: (*a*) The reply is in the affirmative.

(*b*) Nos. (*i*) to (*iii*) are merely honorary distributing agents, who, on account of the superior value of Government seed, desire to push rapidly its use amongst cultivators. No. (*iv*) has entered into a contract with the Agricultural Department to sell departmental seed the chief terms of which are stated below:—

(*1*) That he will purchase the jute seed produced for the Agricultural Department at the following rates.—

C. Capsularis—Rs. 25 per maund; and

C. Olitorius—Rs. 35 per maund; *ex*-godown Dacca farm.

(*2*) That he will retail the seed at a fixed rate of—

Rs. 30 per maund for C. Capsularis; and

Rs. 40 per maund for C. Olitorius;

(with the exception that certain Associations will be allowed a discount of Rs. 2-8-0 per maund for orders given a year in advance).

(3) That the seed will be delivered at the nearest steamer or railwas station.

(4) That the Agricultural Department undertakes to examine, and, if necessary, to winnow and clean the seed before it is taken oved. (In this connection it may be noted that the bulk of the seed requires no winnowing or cleaning.)

(5) That the Agricultural Department may reserve for itself such quantities of seed as are required for the next year's seed crop.

(6) That a circular notice in Bengali be issued by the Department to be posted at all police thanas stating that the cost of the seed is Rs. 30 and Rs. 40 for C. Capsularis and C. Olitorius, respectively, and that the seed is obtainable only from recognised Agricultural Associations, Government farms and the person and firms referred to in the question.

(7) That the contractor will have access to papers dealing with the jute seed transactions and lists of men who have taken seed in previous years.

(c) No Indian firm has asked for the business. It was offered to the only Indian gentleman known to the Director to be in a position to undertake it, at any rate to some extent, but he declined to undertake it owing to the risk of his not being able to recover his money.

(d) The member is referred to the Thacker's Indian Directory, which contains the information wanted.

Circle schools.

137. **SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ:** (a) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Education be pleased to lay on the table, a statement showing, district by district, for the Presidency of Bengal—

(i) the number of circle schools abolished;

(ii) the number of students that were receiving education in those schools; and

(iii) the number of circle pandits thrown out of employment?

(b) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state whether any pension or maintenance allowance has been given to any of these pandits?

(c) If the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, how many persons received pensions and how many maintenance allowances?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq): (a), (b) and (c) A statement is laid on the table.

Statement referred to in the reply to unstarred question No. 137.

Name of district.	Number of Circle Schools abolished.	Number of students who were receiving education in the Schools which were abolished.	Number of circle Pandits thrown out of employment i.e., whose posts have been abolished.	Number of discharged Pandits provided for in other posts.	Number of Pandits eligible for pension.	Number of Pandits eligible for gratuity.	Number of Pandits discharged without pension or gratuity.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24-Parganas ..	5	475	5	5	..	..	..
Nadia ..	2	161	2	1	..	..	1*
Jessore ..	4	127	4	3	..	..	1*
Khulna ..	1	20	1	1	..	..	..
Bankura ..	1	11	1	1	..	..	..
Bakarganj ..	1	30	1	..	1‡	..	..
Pabna ..	2	83	3†	..	1‡	..	1
Tippera ..	8	121	8	..	6‡	2‡	..
Noakhali ..	7	97	7	1	5‡	1‡	..
Chittagong ..	1	3	1	..	..	1‡	..

*Each of these two pandits worked temporarily for about a year and was not entitled to either pension or gratuity. Both have been discharged, but endeavours are being made to find employment for them.

†Of the three pandits in this district whose posts have been abolished, one died before the abolition of the school, another is eligible for pension, and the third, who has been discharged, was employed on an acting basis and was not entitled to either pension or gratuity. The District Inspector of Schools has been requested to find suitable employment for him.

‡Their pension or gratuity cases have been initiated. At the same time, however, efforts to find them posts are not being relaxed.

Model Maktabs and Patshalas.

138. Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Education be pleased to state—

(*i*) how many model maktabs and model patshalas there were in Bengal in 1921; and

(*ii*) how many of them have been abolished or are under orders of abolition in consequence of the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee?

(*b*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state whether it is in the contemplation of the Government to continue and maintain any model maktabs and model patshalas?

(*c*) If so, how many of each of them?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: (*a*) (*i*) There were in Bangal in 1921—

7 model maktabs,

44 model primary schools for girls.

(*ii*) Of the model maktabs none has been abolished. They have been deprovincialised, and suitable grants-in-aid given to local Committees for their maintenance. Of the girls' primary schools 2 are to be abolished and the remainder deprovincialised from 1st April, 1924. As in the case of the maktabs suitable grants-in-aid will be given to ensure their continuance.

(*b*) and (*c*) The question does not arise.

Damodar Channel and Pirojpur Town.

139. Rai SATYENDRA NATH ROY CHAUDHURI Bahadur: (*a*) Is the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Irrigation aware—

(*i*) that the channel Damodar on which Pirojpur town in the district of Bakarganj is situated, has practically been silted up and that it remains dried up sometimes in the winter;

(*ii*) that in consequence, the health of Pirojpur town and its neighbourhood has deteriorated;

(*iii*) that this silting up has stopped the steamer traffic for a long time through the route and the boat traffic has also now become impossible during the dry season;

(*iv*) that the communications with Pirojpur have become difficult, tedious and inconvenient;

(*v*) that the trade with the district of Khulna by boat has been rendered impossible; and

(*vi*) that the District Board of Bakarganj re-excavated the channel about 10 years ago with the help of the Irrigation Department with temporary results only?

(*b*) Are the Government considering the desirability of adopting any effective measure to re-excavate the channel?

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of IRRIGATION (the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan): (*a*) (*i*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*ii*) The mortality statistics for the past 20 years do not bear out this assertion.

(*iii*) and (*iv*) Yes.

(*v*) Trade with Khulna by boat has been rendered difficult but r impossible because the Baleswar river affords an alternative route.

(*vi*) Yes.

(*b*) The matter is under the consideration of the District Board a Government who are making investigations.

The Budget of the Government of Bengal, 1924-25.

Demands for Grants.

22—General Administration.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 2,0 under the head '22A.—Staff and Household of the Governor—Surge to His Excellency the Governor—Travelling Allowance,' be reduc by Rs. 500."

Babu MONMOHON NEOGI: "That the demand for Rs. 711 f Hill and Dacca allowances under the head '22A.—Staff and Hous hold of the Governor—Surgeon to His Excellency the Governor,' refused."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 7 under the head '22A.—Staff and Household of the Governor—Surge to His Excellency the Governor—Hill and Dacca Allowances,' reduced by Rs. 211."

Babu MONMOHON NEOGI, SHAH SYED EMDADUL HA and Babu NALINIRANJAN SARKAR: "That the demand f Rs. 90,000 on account of Band establishment under the head '22A.- Staff and Household of the Governor,' be refused."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 90,0 for Band establishment under the head '22A.—Staff and Household the Governor,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA, Babu MONMOHAN NEOG Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE and Babu NALINIRANJA SARKAR: "That the demand of Rs. 1,11,000 under 'Detailed Accou No. 22A.—Staff and Household of the Governor—Body Gua Establishment,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDR BAGCHI and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That th demand of Rs. 4,63,500 under the head "22A.—General Administr tion—Staff and Household of the Governor,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 4,63,500 under the head '22A.—General Administration—Staff and Household of the Governor,' be reduced by Rs. 1,50,500."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Babu MONMOHON NEOGI, and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,00,000 under the head '22B.—General Administration—Expenditure from Contract Allowance,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,00,000 under the head '22B.—General Administration—Expenditure from Contract Allowance,' be reduced by Rs. 50,000."

Babu NALINIRANJAN SARKAR: "That the demand of Rs. 1,00,000 under the head '22B.—Expenditure from Contract Allowance,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and Babu MANMOHAN NEOGI: "That the demand of Rs. 2,67,000 under the head '22C.—General Administration—Tour Expenses' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 2,67,000 under the head '22C.—General Administration—Tour Expenses,' be reduced by Rs. 1,67,000."

Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY: "That the demand of Rs. 2,67,000 under the head '22C.—Tour Expenses,' be reduced by Rs. 1,50,000 from the provision for the carriage of goods, cost of special train for carriage of heavy goods and stable between Government Houses, and special trains and haulage of saloon carriages."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 2,67,000 under the head '22C.—Tour Expenses,' be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

Babu NALINIRANJAN SARKAR: "That the demand of Rs. 2,67,000 under the head '22C.—Tour Expenses,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 12,000 under the head '22D.—Executive Council—Travelling Allowances,' be reduced by Rs. 6,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 20,000 under the head '22D.—General Administration—Executive Council,' be refused."

Babu SUDARSAN CHAKRAVORTY: "That the demand of Rs. 26,000 under the head '22D.—General Administration—Executive Council,' be reduced by Rs. 25,999."

Babu NALINIRANJAN SARKAR: "That the demand of Rs. 26,000 under the head '22D.—Executive Council,' be reduced by Rs. 22,500."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 26,000 under the head '22D.—Executive Council,' be reduced by Rs. 2,000."

Babu JATINDRA NATH BASU: "That the demand for Rs. 26,000 under the head '22D.—Executive Council,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Maulvi SAYEDAL HOQUE: I move that the demand of Rs. 1,92,000 under the head "22E.—General Administration—Ministers (Transferred)—Pay of Officers" be refused.

I have the honour and the privilege this afternoon of moving a motion, which, if carried, will perhaps put a stop to a system of Government thrust upon the people in the teeth of all opposition. Our country stands humiliated when the best of her sons do not hesitate to become a ready instrument, garbed in the mask of Ministers merrily dancing to the tune of the country's very exploiters.

Once we had been proud of our beloved leaders as forerunners and champions of freedom but now we are ashamed of them, perhaps most correctly, to think that those very persons are now trying their level best to set back the wheel of the country's progress towards freedom. Oh, how much anguish I feel to think that these three sixty-four thousands have bereaved us of our best leaders and have bereaved the country of her best sons. Indians prayed for Home Rule, shed their blood in the far-off fields of France and elsewhere, and subscribed their mite when perilous days overtook our present rulers, but in return we are given a pompous, costly, and huge frame-work, with all the resemblance of a shadowy home rule, but really a ghost, a skeleton, void of all substance. How beautiful a structure it seems to one who looks from a far-off gallery but to a close observer it is nothing but a huge mockery intended to outwit the Indian dead and dying by holding out sugar-coated stones when we so earnestly prayed for loaves of bread. The country is to-day determined to stand vindicated before the world with all her flouted honours and she is going to reclaim and recover her sons by striking at the very root of the vicious tree, the tempting and alluring fruits of which have so long been poisoning recklessly right and left. We are not going to allow this state of affairs a moment longer. We have had enough of it.

Our friends on the opposite side will say that they are working out the country's salvation in the way they choose to be best. But, I think,

I shall not be wrong in saying that the love for one's own country is one thing and the love for money is altogether a different thing. Overwhelming majority in expressing their non-confidence in the Ministers of the Central Provinces Legislative Council could not unhinge the minds of the Ministers from their love for country, but the reduction of their salaries wonderfully worked in them. They stood aloof from the country's cause in that particular manner that very moment, when their love for the country would not bring in princely amounts. Perhaps, to all the love of country is not always the end but a means to the end. Some of our friends on the opposite side are very very anxious for Islam and others are for Hinduism. Sir, religion was always a thing out of which much capital was made. I cannot reconcile myself with the idea that the perpetuation of liquor shops and the furtherance of the use of intoxicating drugs will in any way better the cause of Islam. I cannot drink merrily and preach from the Holy Koran at the same breath. Sweet sixty-four thousands far exceed everything in the world in excellence and beauty. Here lies the salvation of the country to many but not to us, we, people of meagre understanding. We have no charm for it rather we are out to end the diarchy by refusing these three sixty-four thousands if we can.

A few words more and I have done. We have been warned over and over again of the constitutional issues that are awaiting us. But, Sir, before I resume my seat I want to make clear that my friends would do us good by making it a point that we are here to welcome that constitutional issue and we shall consider our attempts fruitless if we fail to create that state of affairs of which we are so much warned. These are my words for submitting this motion.

Mr. C. R. DAS: May I ask, Mr. President, if these motions are going to be moved one after another? Will not motion No. 306 be put now?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I propose to take all the motion from 306 to 326 together as they all relate to the Ministers' salary, and put motion No. 319 to the vote first, as it covers all the motions and is more comprehensive. If motion No. 319 is lost, the other motions will be put.

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: I move that the demand of Rs. 1,92,000 under the head "22E.—General Administration—Ministers—Transferred—Ministers" be reduced by sum of Rs. 1,91,997.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I move that the demand of Rs. 1,92,000 for pay of Ministers under the head "22E.—Ministers" be reduced by Rs. 1,56,000.

I shall speak on the other amendments and so have only formally moved my amendment.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You can make that speech now, Akhil Babu. Technically speaking, every member may speak on all these motions over and over again, but if you do that we shall have to go on till the next month. I would suggest for the convenience of the members and also for the despatch of the business of this House that the members who move their motions do speak, if they wish on the whole question of the Ministers' salary. That will be convenient, and a good deal of time will be saved.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I am content for the moment simply to move my amendment.

Babu HEM CHANDRA NASKER: I move that the demand of Rs. 1,92,000 for the pay of Ministers under the head "22E.—Ministers" be reduced by Rs. 1,56,000.

This matter has been talked over and over in the last Council and I do not think much can be said on this subject. In England the Ministers have now themselves taken a reduced salary and there can be no earthly reason why our Ministers should not accept a reduced pay. One of the Ministers who has since been unseated openly declared to his constituency his willingness to serve the country at a pay of Rs. 1,000 only. Consequently, Sir, when such an able gentleman was willing to accept a pay of Rs. 1,000 only I do not see why his colleagues should demand more. With these words I support the amendment.

The following motion standing in the name of Babu Sudarsan Chakravorty was called but not moved:—

"That the demand of Rs. 1,92,000 on account of the pay of three Ministers under the head "22E.—Ministers' be reduced by Rs. 1,44,000."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: I beg to move that the demand for Rs. 1,92,000 under the head "22E.—Ministers—Pay of Officers" be reduced by Rs. 1,20,000.

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA formally supported the motion.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 1,32,000 under the head '22E.—Ministers—Pay of Officers' be reduced by Rs. 1,08,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 1,92,000 under the head "22E.—Ministers—Pay of Officers" be reduced by Rs. 64,000.

He spoke in Bengali in support of his motion, the translation of which is as follows:—

A lot of heated discussion, Sir, took place in the Council in the past regarding Ministers' salaries. In 1921 I put in a motion in this Council

recommending the salaries to be Rs. 1,000 a month, but it was then deemed to be an object of ridicule. Not a single member consented to give his vote for me. And even their salary to the extent of Rs. 3,000 a month was not approved of by the Council. Then, again, there was further discussion about this in this very Hall. During the discussion of the last Budget grant a motion was moved by me fixing the salaries of the Ministers at Rs. 4,000 per mensem and that was not carried. It is true that the District Magistrates and Deputy Magistrates get salaries ranging from Rs. 1,500 and Rs. 300, respectively, and arguments have been advanced that a lower salary than what these officers get would not be consistent with the dignity of a Minister. But if we refer to highly civilised countries, such as Japan and America, what do we find? Their Ministers get a nominal salary, not a fat one like the Ministers of Bengal and in a poor country like Bengal. It is not the question of the determination of the pay from the point of view of the salaries of these executive officers, it is a question of principle only. If the Chairmen of the District Boards who also devote their time and energy without getting any remuneration whatsoever can work honorary, why should not the Ministers come forward with this altruistic view and serve the country with a small salary? To my mind, Sir, the present Ministers and their successors will be prepared to act honorarily. Sir, it has been decided by the Indian Congress Committee that the status of the Ministers should be on the same level with that of the Executive Members, and perhaps for that reason their salaries and position have been accordingly determined in the Government of India Act. At present the salaries of divisional commissioners and the secretaries to Government are not less than Rs. 3,000, and, as such, questions may arise that the position of Ministers on a lower scale of pay will be jeopardised and will not be in consonance with the circumstances of the time. We have no hand in cutting the salaries of these commissioners and secretaries, but we are possessed with plenary powers in so far as the salaries of the Ministers are concerned. If you reduce the Ministers' salaries that will serve as an object lesson to the other high officials of Government, and we can demand the reduction of their salaries on the basis of the Ministers. It has been decided on a conference of the Swarajists and Independents that the whole Budget should be rejected. Personally speaking I am not in favour of this proposition. I have argued in the past that the members of this Council do travel in third class and charge double first class from the Government and as a matter of fact a vernacular newspaper has stated that the Haq Sahib has disclosed the *haq katha* in the Council. The Swarajists are, no doubt, taking a keen interests in the work of their country and it will be all the more evidenced when the question of their travelling allowance comes. The total refusal of the Ministers' salaries is an easy task for them for it does not concern them in the least. I have never been subjected to any influence by the Government or

the Nationalist party, and what will be deemed expedient and proper by me I will carry out. To my mind, Sir, the total refusal of the Ministers' salaries is unfair and unjust, and I may add that the Council will do well if they vote for my motion.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu MANMOHON NEOGI: "That the demand of Rs. 15,000 for travelling allowances under the head '22E.—Ministers' be refused."

Babu MANMOHON NEOGI: "That the demand of Rs. 500 for Hill Allowance under the head '22E.—Ministers' be refused."

Mr. PRESIDENT: I want to make an appeal to the whole Council and that is that the members should do their utmost to assist me in conducting the debate on this matter without indulging in personalities. It will be better if personalities are avoided on all sides.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: Sir it is with a heavy heart that I beg to move that the demand of Rs. 2,20,000 under the head "22E.—Ministers" be refused.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Maulvi Saheb, it would be as well if you moved No. 321.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: Very well, Sir, I beg to move that the demand of Rs. 2,20,000 under the head "2.—Ministers" be reduced by Rs. 2,19,999.

Sir, the policy of my party has been demonstrated on a previous occasion in this Council that we should refuse the budget *in toto*. Except in two cases, that is Registration and Excise, we have not been successful. Sir, this Council knows that my friend, Mr. J. M. Sen Gupta, some time ago sent in a resolution to the Hon'ble the President in which he wanted to move a vote of non-confidence on the Ministers, but the President disallowed it saying that at the time when the Ministers' salary would come up before the Council if the Council would pass a resolution refusing the whole demand, it would be taken as a vote of censure on the Ministers or rather a vote of no-confidence in the Ministers. We take this opportunity of showing our dissatisfaction in the present Ministry and if it is passed it would be tantamount to a vote of censure or no-confidence on the Ministers. In this case I have not been moved by any personal jealousies or by any other considerations, but I have been moved with the principle and spirit of the programme which has been laid down by my party. The Hon'ble Maulvi Fazl-ul Huq is a personal friend of mine and I have had the honour of doing some work with him in the courts, and I can say that he is an extremely amiable gentleman. I know he is a very competent man himself and a very able man too, but because I moved this resolution it should not be taken that I have become jealous of him owing to his becoming a Minister. Far

from it, I think the object of my friend in getting the Ministership is to get what he wanted in his life, either a Ministership or a Judgeship in the High Court.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order! Order! You cannot discuss the motive of any member in accepting office as a Minister.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: My Hon'ble Friend's ambition has been fulfilled. In dealing with this question we have to consider two points and what are they? Frst of all the members of my community here inside the Council and outside the Council are told that this year we have got two Muhammadan Ministers: the members of the Swaraj party and of the Independent party are deliberately trying to oust them so that the Independent members may take their place and two Hindu Ministers might come in. That is a matter which greatly weighs with my community. Those who were members of the last Council know that there was a proposal to reduce the salary of the Ministers but the voice of those gentlemen who moved the reduction was a feeble one and they could not even carry the modest resolution to reduce the salary to Rs. 400 a month. But I should like to say that we have not been moved by the consideration that there are two Muhammadan members and that they should be turned out. If there had been Hindu Ministers the same resolution would have been brought up and moved in this Council. (Hear, hear.) If such a resolution had been moved, I am certain that the Muhammadan members on the other side of the House would have come and voted with the Hindu members who had brought forward that motion because at that time they would have got an opportunity of saying that they should turn out the three Hindu Ministers and would get an opportunity of getting the Ministerships for themselves. However, Sir, there is the other consideration and that is that the East Bengal Government was given as a sop to the Muhammadans. When the partition was annulled, the settled fact was unsettled, the Muhammadans had had no opportunity to improve their condition and now by having two Muhammadan Ministers the Muhammadans who lost ground would regain their lost ground at least for three years to come. In this case I do not cast any reflection on my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Ghuznavi—and I do not know how far it is true—I am told that lately some appointments have been made and that none of them have gone to the members of my community. If that be the case, then the Hon'ble Mr. Ghuznavi appointed certain people who are not Muhammadans although my community was given to understand that they would get much more appointments under him. I am told also that a professor of philosophy had been appointed under my friend, Maulvi Fazl-ul Huq, and although there were many qualified Muhammadan candidates it has not gone to any Muhammadan. So far as I see by their becoming Ministers they have not in any way benefited my community and rather my community have become losers. If there had been Hindu Ministers they would have

thought that the Muhammadans ought to get some appointments and perhaps our dues would not have been so much disregarded as have been done by the members of my community. The motion for refusal is tantamount to a motion of no-confidence and we want to know how far the country is with us and how far the country is with our friends. This is a supreme test between the elected representatives of the country and the servants of the Crown or rather of the bureaucratic Government and to-day we have come for the final struggle to see whether the country is with us or whether these nominated or these elected members or the officials carry the day. We want to see that the country is with us and if we can demonstrate by refusing the salary of the Ministers or by reducing it, then we will be able to go to the country and say that we have shown that the Ministers do not enjoy the confidence to the House. I say again that we do not want to turn them out because they are Muhammadans, but we want to do away with the diarchical form of Government. So long as Government will find men to run the transferred departments it is impossible to get swaraj and the Muhammadan members of my party also think the same. We have got no personal grudge against any of the Ministers but we have come here to move that this diarchy should go.

The following motion standing in the names of Babu Hemanta Kumar Sarkar and Babu Romes Chandra Bagchi was called but not moved:—

"That the demand of Rs. 2,20,000 under the head '22E.—General Administration—Ministers' be reduced by a sum of Rs. 2,19,997."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: I move that the demand of Rs. 2,20,000 under the head "22E.—Ministers" be reduced by Rs. 1,84,000.

It will be seen, Sir, from the detailed account 22E that if my motion is carried, Rs. 36,000 will only remain as the pay of the Ministers.

Mr. PRESIDENT: If you look at page 51 of detailed account 22E, you will see that it covers the establishment as well as travelling allowances and other miscellaneous charges.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: Yes, Sir, I had that in mind when I drafted this motion. Besides the sum of Rs. 1,92,000 there is some provision for travelling allowances, hill allowance and so forth which I think not advisable to sanction. When I drafted this motion the idea prevalent in my mind was that a Minister of the Government—I mean a life Minister—not an ex-Minister, or would-be Minister, that is to say my friend, Babu Surendra Nath Mallik declared that he was quite willing to continue as Minister on Rs. 1,000 a month. I have heard, Sir, from one or two of my friends that it was more an election manifesto than something what he really intended to take. As a personal friend of Mr. Mallik for a quarter of a century, I know very well that he

is a man who means what he says and that he was willing to accept the post of Minister on Rs. 1,000. If he was willing to do so, I do not see why the other two Ministers would not accept and carry on the administration with Rs. 1,000. That is the first ground upon which I drafted my motion.

The second ground which I want to make clear after the observation which has fallen from my friend Shah Syed Emadadul Haq, is that this resolution is not meant to convey any slur upon any community or upon any gentlemen. Everybody knows that in the last Council when there were two Hindu Ministers and one Muhammadan Minister the members of the last Council who were neither Swarajists nor Nationalists moved several times resolutions for the reduction of the pay of the Ministers and if it be said that this resolution has any intention of casting a slur upon the two present Muhammadan Ministers, my reply is this that we, Swarajists, have combined and have already driven out a Minister who is a Hindu, namely my friend Mr. Mallik. We had combined in such a manner that it was impossible for the Minister to get himself returned. So it cannot be said by any stretch of imagination that we intend to do any harm to my friends, the present Ministers simply, because they belong to the Muhammadan community. On these two grounds I move this resolution and hope that the Council will accept it.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN: "That the demand of Rs. 2,20,000 under the head '22E.—Ministers,' be reduced by Rs. 1,80,000."

Babu BARODA PROSAD DEY: "That the demand of Rs. 2,20,000 under the head '22E.—Ministers,' be reduced by Rs. 1,05,000."

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: I wonder if I can appeal to the sense of fairness of this House with any prospect of a response to that appeal. If I cannot, then there is little use in my attempt to argue this case. I only ask that members should listen to me in a spirit of fairness and give me a fair hearing. That is not much to ask but in these days of political excitement it is often a good deal to give. Well, I know my own people of Bengal and I believe that the majority of them are endowed with fundamental sentiments of fairness and justice, and I believe that in their innermost hearts, in the intimate recesses which each one of our opposition friends can alone explore for himself, I believe and I hope there is a desire to be fair and just, and relying upon that sense of justice, which I am sure exists, I trust myself to them. I am sure that their better feelings will triumph and that those who lead them will wish that their better feelings may be uppermost.

I ask them first of all to realise the difficulty of our position. It is so easy and so tempting to misrepresent us, to taunt us with cheap

sneers of being self-seeking. My first demand on that sense of fairness and justice of which I have spoken, is that the difficulty of our position may be realized, that I may not be misrepresented and that I may be given the credit of being sincere. I do not speak here pleading for myself, as bargaining for more gold. I thank the merciful Allah who has provided for my needs so that I can speak with independence on this question. My profession is not the profession of a Minister, my livelihood does not depend upon it. Yet, nevertheless, I argue that this Council should not reduce the salaries of Ministers. We have to go back to the origin of the Reforms and their inauguration in discussing again this threadbare question, for, as we have been told, and as we know, it has been discussed threadbare within these very walls and in the country. We have to consider the scheme of the Reforms. I know my opponents refuse almost to recognize the Reforms, but how can we close our eyes to facts? The Reformed Constitution is here and it is a fact. It is a fact which among many people in this country was welcomed with gratitude and enthusiasm, whatever may be the changes in the minds of some in regard to it now. It divided the Government into the portions, one of which we may perhaps for want of a better term describe as a continuation of the system which preceded the Reforms, and the other an advance on the line of popular government and democratic control. It was an offer to the people of this country inviting them to show their capacity for self-government and one part of the new government was to be entirely their own. Let it not be thought that because a certain section claiming to represent the country says we will not have it, it is not now the country's own. For all practical purposes it is.

Now, Sir, when this constitution came the major section of the people welcomed it. Some may have changed since but most of them are still conscious of the trust and opportunities it gives. Every shade of political opinion was represented before the Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament and it was unanimously agreed that the Ministers should in status and in every way be the equal of the Executive Council Members. Had they been less in status the people felt that there would have been inferiority in their own part of the Government. And were they less in status to-day the people would feel the same. Those stalwarts of the Indian National Congress Mr. V. J. Patel and Dewan V. P. Madhava Rao said it, and why did they say it? Does any one insinuate that they said so in order to ensure the existence of highly paid posts for themselves or their friends. Surely not. They said so for the reason I have given. There could have been no other reason. My point is this that in saying this, these men, who are in the forefront of public life of India, were laying down a principle. That principle has not changed and to try to avoid it in order to undermine all the principles that are at the root of our constitution may be good tactics on the part of those who wish to wreck the machine, but

I am sure the people of Bengal do not in their heart of hearts wish to wreck the Reforms. They wish to improve them perhaps, but this is not the way.

This question was threshed out every year, and every year the Council reached the same decision.

And now, Sir, let me here cite my friend the Kumar Sahib who spoke on this very question in 1921—a year in which the finances of this country were much worse than now. He opposed the motion for reduction of the salaries of Ministers. He asked if it would be proper or if it would add to "our prestige and dignity" if this were done. He maintained with all the force of his eloquence and at great length that the salaries of Ministers should not be reduced. Let me quote from his speech on that occasion:—

It would not be out of place if I lay before the House the views expressed by different public bodies in India on the matter of a Minister's salary when those bodies specially assembled some two years back to consider the Reforms Report, and I hope their opinions would carry weight with the House. At the special session of the Congress held at Bombay in September, 1918, under the presidency of Mr. Hassan Imam, the following resolution was passed on the motion of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya:—"The status and salary of the Ministers shall be the same as those of the Members of the Executive Council." Sir, this motion, amongst others, was supported by the late Lokemanya Tilak and Pandit Motilal Nehru.

Again, at the special conference of the Moderates, held at Bombay in November, 1918, under the Presidency of Sir Surendra Nath Banerjea, on the motion of the Hon'ble Mr. Srinivasa Shastri, the following resolution was passed:—"Status and emoluments of the Ministers should be identical with those of the Executive Councillors."

Again at the special session of the All-India Moslem League, held also at Bombay in September, 1918, under the presidency of the Hon'ble the Raja of Mahmudabad the following resolution was passed:—"The status and salary of the Ministers shall be the same as that of the Members of the Executive Council."

Now, Sir, there are reasons why a Minister should have this pay apart from the principle to which I have referred. These reasons, however, had been, and had better be, dealt with by others. If I have had difficulty and embarrassment in dealing with this question because I am myself a Minister, my difficulty and embarrassment would naturally be greater if I entered into these matters.

I turn to the reason why a Minister should have no pay. Sir, the reasons why a Minister of the Government of Bengal to-day should get no pay is because the Swarajya party wish to wreck the Reforms, and there is positively no other reason if we go to the bottom of the matter. They have endeavoured in every way to wreck the Reforms. They have abstained from taking office themselves. They have hounded the erstwhile tribunes of the people from public life because they had taken office. And yet two men have been found ready to face the odium which they would create for Ministers. They have found that there are two of us ready to accept the responsibility, ready to work the Reforms, ready to endeavour to do some good for the people, ready to serve Islam and promote the best interests of all communities in serving

their common motherland. Therefore, these unfortunate Ministers must be hounded out. Newspaper campaigns having failed no weapon is to be left untried. On the most specious of pleas, on no plea at all, the Council is asked to refuse to vote the salaries of Ministers. So the question comes back again to the one dominating question of the political crisis through which we are now passing, viz.—Shall the Reforms be wrecked?

It has however been pressed upon us by our friends and supporters that there is at the present moment a considerable feeling in the country that the Ministers should set the example of economy in expenditure by accepting a reduced salary. However much we may disagree in principle with views of this character purely on the ground that it involves a departure with regard to different scales of pay as between Ministers and Members of the Council, we are prepared to defer to the wishes of our friends and supporters by accepting their suggestion. We are, therefore, without committing ourselves in any way as regards the merits of the controversy, prepared to accept the position, namely, that the demand for Ministers' salary be reduced from Rs. 1,92,000 to Rs. 1,44,000.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: After what has fallen from my colleague, the Hon'ble Mr. Ghuznavi; I do not wish to detain the Council at any great length. I may begin by explaining what my friend means by what he has said at the close of his speech that out of deference to the wishes of our friends and supporters we are prepared to accept the position that the demand for the pay of Ministers be reduced from Rs. 1,92,000 to Rs. 1,44,000. The Council will observe that in the demand made by the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson under the head "22.—General Administration" there is an item of Rs. 1,92,000 under the head "Pay of Ministers." The idea is to accept a reduction of salary from Rs. 64,000 to Rs. 48,000 a year, namely, Rs. 4,000 a month, and on that basis the pay of the three Ministers would work out at Rs. 1,44,000. The suggestion, therefore, is that if the Hon'ble Member is pleased to accept the demand at the proper time of Rs. 1,44,000 instead of Rs. 1,92,000, as far as we are concerned, we will be prepared to accept it.

As regards the merits of the question it has been pointed out by the Hon'ble Mr. Ghuznavi that this question was not only discussed several times in this Council but at the time of the very inception of the Reforms by the Indian National Congress and in the All-India Moslem League. All the leaders of the Congress were unanimous in suggesting that the pay and status of the Ministers should be in no way inferior to that of the Members of the Executive Council. This view was held by leaders of political thought not only in the Indian National Congress but in the All-India Moslem League, and I remember, I myself seconded a resolution at the special session of the Congress at Bombay in 1918, which was moved by Pundit Madan Mohan Malaviya to the effect that the pay and

status of Ministers should be the same as that of the Executive Councillors. From that position, personally I have never resiled. At the present moment it seems a very delicate question for me to support a proposition that the pay of the Ministers must be fixed at a figure at which the pay of the Executive Councillors has been fixed. If I say these few words, it is only to correct a common misapprehension that I have always been in favour of a reduction of pay and at the present moment out of selfish considerations, I stick to the figure of Rs. 64,000. I wish it to be clearly understood that I have always held that the pay of Ministers should be the same as that of the Executive Councillors, but as I have explained, and for the reasons given by the Hon'ble Mr. Ghuznavi, we are prepared to defer to popular opinion and accept a reduced salary. Now, Sir, what should that salary be? We have a motion of Maulvi Sayedal Hoque; he proposes to allow us no salary. I know there are Honorary Magistrates in this country, and if the idea is to have Honorary Ministers, I have no objection. If that is the view of the majority of the members of this Council, and if I feel that I have to remain as a Minister, I am perfectly prepared to work as an Honorary Minister. Now, from no salary the scale goes up to Re. 1, Rs. 1,000 a year, then by a jump to Rs. 2,000 and then to the generous salary proposed by my friend Shah Syed Emdadul Haq which works up to Rs. 3,500 a month. I do not know what view the Council will take; it may be that the majority will hold the view that the Ministers shall have no salary; if that is the decision of the Council, we shall have to consider whether we shall have to work gratis or we have to walk out to make room for philanthropic Ministers.

It has been said that the result of this division will be something like the verdict of the country on the supreme struggle between the representatives of the people and the bureaucracy. I, for myself, cannot take it in that light. The result of the division is sometimes arbitrary; sometimes the supporters of the Swaraj party are in the majority, and they carry; sometimes our supporters turn up, and we defeat the Swarajists. Winning and losing are matters of such uncertain chance that it cannot be said whether the success or the failure is the verdict of the country on a particular issue. However, whatever the result of the division may be, it is necessary that I should clear up one point of misapprehension which has arisen regarding the manner in which I have discharged the duties of the office during the short time I assumed charge.

My friend Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq Chaudhury has charged me with having filled some high appointments with members of the Hindu community in utter disregard of the legitimate claims of the Muhammadan candidates. In the first place, I do not see any great sin in appointing a qualified Hindu to a post in the public service. Merely because he is a Hindu I do not think he ought to be shut out. As a matter of fact, personally I would not exclude anyone because he is a Hindu, I would not include anyone merely because he is a Muhammadan. But I do not

remember having given away posts to Hindu gentlemen in disregard of the legitimate claims of Muhammadan candidates. The only post in the filling up of which I had any hand was the post of the Director of Public Instruction to which the late Dr. Dunn was appointed. Here it was no question of Hindus or Muhammadans. I did my best to select a suitable Indian for the post, but an Indian could not be appointed as it would have meant overlooking the claims of more than two dozens competent officers. That was a contingency which could not be thought of, and the appointment was given to Dr. Dunn.

The other post which I had filled up was the post of the Principal of the Sanskrit College; it was given to a Hindu gentleman as conceivably it could not be given to a Muhammadan. These are the only two posts which I know of, and I cannot understand how a charge like this can have been levelled against me.

Much has been said as to the necessity of reduction in the pay of Ministers. I have already made it clear, whatever our individual views might be on the merits of the question, we are prepared to accept a reduced salary; what that salary ought to be is a matter to be decided by this Council. But I can assure this Council, that so far as the post of Minister is concerned, I have ceased to have any love for it. I feel it is not a post, under present conditions, for a gentleman; at any rate, Sir, it is not a post which ought to be accepted by anyone who has the least pretensions to any sense of self-respect. Therefore, Sir, if the contingency does arise and I am forced to withdraw, I will do so without the least regret. Let my friends make their minds easy on that point; I am not clinging to the office or the salary it carries, but I am only defending the salary of Ministers on a question of principle. I have always said it should not be less than that of the Executive Councillors, and I stick to that view, but personally, having regard to the views expressed by my friends and supporters, I am prepared to accept a lesser pay. As I have said, what that salary should be must be determined by this Council.

One of my friends has put the query: "Why cannot you serve on Rs. 1,000?" It is very difficult to answer that question. When that salary is fixed by the Council, it will be for us to state whether we can serve or not. If we can, we will do so; if we cannot, we go away. I do not think I can take up the time of the Council. I think I have made it quite clear, whatever our individual views may be on the merits of the question, we are prepared to accept the lower salary.

[At this stage Babu Sarat Chandra Basu rose to address the Council.]

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Basu, the debate is now closed, you cannot address the Council after the Ministers have spoken.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: On a point of order, Sir; this is a demand, which concerns my portfolio. The Ministers are merely speaking on the demand.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Very well, Mr. Basu, you may go on.

Babu SARAT CHANDRA BASU: Knowing the resolutions that have come up for to-day's discussion when I came here I thought that there would have been no necessity for a speech. As for myself, I can say, and the feeling is shared by many of us here, that to-day we have come not to bury the Ministers but to praise them. I have been considerably moved by the speeches just now delivered by the two Ministers, and I felt the weight of the speeches and was considerably moved. I for myself can declare that I am deeply grateful to the Ministers for having accepted office. I also feel, belonging to the profession that I do, that we cannot expect honest work from honorary business. But at the same time we have got various things to consider and various duties to perform, and if I rise to support the motion, it is on account of considerations that are of very deep interest to the country at large. In so far as the personnel of the Ministers is concerned, we have got everything that we can desire, we have got two honourable gentlemen who I am sure will perform their duties honestly to the best of their ability, and to the satisfaction of the country. Under those circumstances I thought—it might have been a mistake on my part—that the Ministers themselves would not speak anything about it, but would leave it to the members of the Council to discuss and decide. One thing, Mr. President, which actuates me to say something is that. I have heard, and I have read considerable discussions regarding the matter both in the Press and outside. One chief reason that is advocated for keeping the pay of the Ministers as it is, is that they should have the same pay as the Members of the Executive Council; I am sure that there is considerable force in this argument, but at the same time we know our country is poor, we also know that the pay of officers in this country are not always fixed after due consideration and by balancing well the pay that is given to others. I may be excused for giving an instance, although I feel that all comparisons are odious, but in this case to convince the members of the House here, I may mention that there are the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court who are content with Rs. 50,000 a year, while the Members of the Executive Council and the Ministers are drawing a pay much higher than that. The course, Mr. President, we are going to adopt, although it may not look very well on many occasions, is by following the wisdom of the adage that prevails in our language that we beat the *jhee* (daughter) for the purpose of teaching the *bow* (daughter-in-law). We feel that some of these officers, the Ministers and Members of the Executive Council are very highly paid, and we feel that there ought to be a wholesale reduction in this respect. But in so far as the pay of the Members of the Executive Council is concerned, we are powerless; and therefore we are attempting to cut down the pay of our own Ministers, over which we have got some control, and we are making this attempt with the confidence that the Ministers themselves will join with us and help us in reducing that pay. If we can succeed in reducing the pay of the Ministers, in some near future we may succeed in reducing the pay of the Members of

the Executive Council, thereby bringing the pay of the two sets of officers on a par as it ought to be. Under those circumstances, Mr. President, I do not think that we would be doing any particular harm in this instance in bringing on a temporary disparity between the pay of the Members of the Executive Council and that of the Ministers. I am deeply grateful to the Ministers for showing the way by themselves proposing a reduction, a considerable reduction that would make their pay lower than that of the Members of the Executive Council, and I am sure that my countrymen will feel deeply grateful to the Ministers for the suggestion. But at the same time I think we should give them some pay if we have got to give them any pay at all. One of the Ministers has just given us to understand that he is quite willing to do it as an honorary work. If they do that, they will earn the gratitude of the whole country, but if they cannot afford to do that, then other considerations will arise as to what their pay will be. I believe, knowing the Ministers are perfectly willing to do the honorary work, they will consent to a substantial reduction in their pay, far more substantial than has already been proposed in order to enable them to go on with the work, and at the same time show to the country, the Government, and the world at large, that the officers in this country are paid exceedingly high and that officers of equal calibre to perform equally onerous duties can be obtained for much less pay. I hope as the Ministers are the representatives of the people, at least they ought to be, they should themselves declare that they would go on with the work and do their onerous duties, the same onerous duties as the Members of the Executive Council have got to perform, at a pay considerably less than what the Members of the Executive Council are at present enjoying. Under these circumstances we have got to support the motion put forward, as that is the only way of bringing things to a head, because with reference to cutting down the pay to a particular figure, it is very difficult to come to a consensus of opinion. Let us first begin with no pay, and then in some near future we shall try to go up and give our friends an adequate though a substantially reduced pay. With these words I support the motion.

Mr. J. A. JONES: I feel it on my conscience not to allow the fallacies in which the last speaker indulged to pass unchallenged. It is a matter perfectly established in history that however poor a country may be, it pays it to have well-paid Ministers, because badly-paid Ministers, take care to make the country poorer still. It is a perfectly well-known fact that in all the wretched misgoverned countries in the world, the Ministers receive either no salaries, as the hon'ble member wishes, or very small salaries, and they make it up by means so well known to every member of this House. I do not know whether that will be the kind of ideal which the hon'ble member wishes to establish under swaraj. All I can say is that I am very sorry for the country,

and above all, sorry for the poor when they find themselves in the grip of Ministers who are without salary and who have got to live. Now, Sir, whether you deal with Ministers or with armies, or whether you deal with any kind of officers, when you give them powers of exaction, it is surely wise to muzzle them with a good salary. It is the only safe plan. That is why in all civilized countries you find the members of Government receiving comparatively high pay. It is not altogether a measure of generosity: it is a measure of self-protection, and I would commend to the last speaker the prudence of revising the policy which he has expounded on that subject. I cannot understand the logic of the gentlemen opposite. Mr. Ghusnavi has read resolutions adopted by innumerable congresses and leagues, in which they have expressly laid down the proposition that the Ministers ought to receive the same salary as the Members of the Executive Council. That I understand they are Indians and why should Indians be less paid than foreigners. But it has been reserved for the Swarajists in the Council to heap insult and contumely upon their own countrymen by making ridiculous propositions that they should be paid Re. 1 a year or Rs. 10 a year, as if we are dealing in a jocose spirit with chaprassis, *peadahs* and people of that kind. This may be a dignified way of conducting public business. I do not know how some of the more respectable members of the party opposite can sit without blushing for their confederates. There are respectable men there on the opposite side. (Laughter.)

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am afraid, Mr. Jones, that was lost on the chair.

Mr. J. A. JONES: It is not worth repeating.

Now if you have got that proposition established by the voice of the people—because I understand the Congress expresses the voice of the people, if you have it established by the Moslem League—because I understand the Moslem League expresses the views of the people, then by what sort of right do gentlemen who pose as representatives of the people bring forward ridiculous propositions in this House and oppose the will of the people by reducing the salaries of the Ministers? How would they justify themselves? Where is the logic? Now, if as I suspected, the real object is, as the speakers have practically admitted, to make an attack upon the Members of the Council, I am surprised that the large amount of ingenuity which exists on the other side did not suggest to them a much better and profitable plan of humiliating them, because it must have occurred to some that if instead of proposing a reduction of salary of the Ministers, it had been proposed to fix a salary of Rs. 6,000 or Rs. 10,000 a month, you would have shown in the most satisfactory way your contempt for the Members of the Executive Council. I am afraid it is too late now to assist the party opposite by moving an amendment to that effect, and I can only condole with them for having lost this opportunity.

Babu DEBI PROSAD KHAITAN: I rise to speak a few words in the course of this debate. I am glad to find that the Hon'ble Ministers, in deference to the wishes of their friends and supporters, have agreed to draw a salary of Rs. 4,000 a month instead of Rs. 5,333. I fear, however, Sir, that the Ministers have done themselves injustice by saying that they themselves do not believe in it, and in order to support that feeling of theirs, they have referred to certain debates in the Congress and in the Moslem League, where resolutions were passed demanding that the status and salary of the Ministers should be the same as the status and salary of the Members of the Executive Council. Sir, it is in one sense a source of gratification to find that even the Hon'ble Ministers are relying on debates held in houses which are represented by the Swaraj party in this Council. That shows that there is union in the country. But at the same time my friends, the Hon'ble Ministers, forget the change that has come upon the country between the time that those demands were made in the Congress and the Moslem League and the present time. At that time it used to be thought that unless the salary of the Ministers was the same as that of the Members of the Executive Council, the Ministers would be placed in an inferior position and that they would not be able to carry weight in the joint deliberations of Government. Since then a great change has taken place in the atmosphere of the country and it now appears that the prestige of the Ministers is enhanced by their voluntarily offering to accept a reduced salary in order to show the way to economy and retrenchment and thereby relieve much of the distress that exists in the country. Sir, if my friends, the Hon'ble Ministers, had based their amendment on that ground, they would have earned still greater gratitude of the country, though they have already earned the gratitude of the country, because when they have agreed to receive a smaller salary, namely, Rs. 4,000 the people will feel that the Ministers are not so much actuated by love of money in continuing in their posts as for serving the country.

Khan Bahadur Kazi ZAHIRUL HAQ: I have had varied experiences in this House, often accompanied with surprises, so very varied and coming in such a quick succession that, I must confess, that my acquisition within this short period of less than three months have been much larger in number and more sobering in effect (for I came here with high hopes, not with the hope of becoming a Minister, I assure you, I am quite happy with my *dal-roti*) than what I may claim to have gained during the 55 years and 6 months of my past life. Such things, you will allow, Sir, must prove bewildering puzzles to a weak brain, but clear out of this tangle stands the one hard fact that the code of morality in use here is different from what obtains in the outside world.

Permit me, Sir, to explain my position which will show how this particular motion had to pass through various stages of evolution before it came into being.

When I first entered this Council Chamber I was really pleased to find a large number of my hon'ble colleagues dressed in pure Swadeshi cap-a-pie. But how great was my disillusionment when I saw during my rambles in the great maidan of this great city, a few days after, some of these very gentlemen driving in fine cars in fine English suits.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It is no concern of this Council as to what costumes members wear outside the Council. That is not relevant.

Khan Bahadur Kazi ZAHIRUL HAQ: Next came the 5½ crores proposal of Mr. Das. I confess I was quite astounded. Did Mr. Das value swaraj at 5½ crores only? Was he actually ready to give up his fight for liberty if the Hon'ble Mr. Donald were to place that amount in his hands on behalf of Government? Well, perhaps he was carried away by the enthusiasm of his master stroke of policy and forgot his creed for the moment. "No" will some of my hon'ble colleagues cry out in emphatic protest. "No, you laymen don't understand this. It is Lila Devatar, Lila Khela, the inscrutable prank of a demi-god."

Again during the passing of the Rent Bill I heard, we all heard some of the members speaking in clear terms against it, but so rigid is party discipline, that at division time they had to go to the opposite lobby, may be for the sake of the pledge given by the leader to Dr. Moreno.

And yet again, when Khan Bahadur Musharruf Hossain stood up to place his memorable motion before the House he was received with commendable merriment, and the House was provided with cheap entertainment free of admission fee and tax, the most delectable portion of it having been provided by Mr. Das himself.

To think of the Desh Bandhu whom Bengal is proud to hold up as the model of Bengal's manhood, who is sung in far off England by the Indian students there, who with his compelling fascination could mould the consciences of his followers into any shape he liked, to think of his climbing down from his high pedestal and, far from checking these unprovoked hilarities, taking part, a regrettably prominent part in them. It is indeed beyond the grasp of an addled brain like mine. But after all, he is a man and it is only a repetition of the old, old story of Abel and Cain.

And now comes the motion on the salary of the Ministers—a rupee per annum to be divided among three of them. I am afraid, the currency office will henceforward be required to issue a new coin in cowries and the Imperial Bank to immediately call for tenders for the construction of a new strong room for their safe custody, not to speak of the immense worry and trouble it will add to the already overworked brain of the poor Accountant General in adjusting the exact amount to be paid to the Hon'ble Ministers of Bengal month by month. I daresay

this particular account sheet, prepared at our instance, will form good guide for economy to the future swaraj, in spite of our man dilinquencies.

But to speak seriously, Sir, I do not understand why the rules o this Council should not extend their protection to all the member equally. We are not permitted even to name a member in this House elected or nominated, official or non-official, in terms of familiarity not to say of disrespect and yet we are quite at liberty to hurl insult upon the Ministers with impunity.

Mr. PRESIDENT: No, Khan Bahadur, you are not. It is quite delusion on your part.

Khan Bahadur Kazi ZAHIRUL HAQ: It seems to be an insult, fo motions like the one before the House mean nothing but shameles insults, and give evidence of the most pitiably degraded mentality Why, Sir, are not the Ministers the chosen representatives of th country? Are they not entitled to equal rights and privileges with othe members? We are very careful in drawing our own travelling allow ance bills quite accurately, without leaving a pie out of account, an yet we dare to throw a few cowries towards these beggarly—I sa "dare" for the very instinct of a gentleman will revolt against sucl an idea.

And what are the Ministers? Are they not our own representative in the higher Councils of the Government? Do we want them to stan outside the Committee room in the rank of the orderlies, or to worl shoulder to shoulder on an equal footing with other members? If th former condition were desired and achieved, we will have qualified our selves fully for self-government, for will it not be a conclusive proof o the absolute self-negation of our representatives? Our rulers would thei of their own accord leave the country, quite satisfied with th result of their 187 years of labours. Why then swaraj will assume th form of a plum, a regular plum, no thorns, no plucking, ripe and read to fall into our mouths with a bang. Bravo, my hon'ble colleagues how cleverly they have been playing their parts? The world is looking on with interest!

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: We have debated this question of Ministers' salaries on very many occasions since the institution of the Reforms, and I do not think that the debate to-day has added very much to what has been said before. These motions before the House can be regarded from three points of views—firstly, that of constitutio wrecking which is, I venture to say, the main idea underlying, and so fa as that is concerned, we have had so many debates on this aspect of the question that I do not propose to add anything further to it. Secondly, that of want of confidence in the Ministers. Whenever these motions

are brought forward we are always told that there is nothing personal in them although the speakers generally go on to add something personal, but I think we may take it from the speeches this afternoon that these are not to be regarded as a vote of no-confidence in the Ministers. So far as the Ministers have been attacked at all this afternoon, it has been for upholding the constitution. The third point of view from which the matter can be considered is as a *bona fide* attempt to fix a suitable pay for Ministers in this Presidency. I think, Sir, that so far as these motions are concerned, there has been no *bona fide* attempt. There are two main considerations which have always influenced the Council so far in fixing the pay of the Ministers—the one has been that it should be the same as that of the Executive Councillors and the other has been that it should be such as will enable this Province to obtain men of suitable calibre for the work. That point has not been mentioned much this afternoon. But, Sir, I would bring it forcibly before the House that if you are going in for a democratic constitution, you must so fix the pay of your Ministers that it will not only be the rich that can be Ministers. That has been the principle of all democracies. You must give the Ministers a salary which will enable you to obtain men of the calibre you want and which will enable you to look for them in more than one grade of society.

Well, Sir, the Ministers have intimated that they are prepared to accept a salary of Rs. 4,000 a month. I shall try to explain exactly how that wish of theirs can be carried out. In the first place, it depends upon all these motions being rejected. If all these motions are rejected, then at the end of the debate on the General Administration, I shall move for the total sum I have asked for, less a sum of Rs. 48,000 to be granted. This sum of Rs. 48,000 will return to the provincial balance, and I have no doubt that Government will consider as to how this sum should be spent.

The motion of Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq Chaudhury was then put and a division was claimed and called.

Mr. President repeated his warning to the public in the gallery against the making of any demonstration.

A division was then taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Bakh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravarti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravarty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rub.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Sereda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haldar, Mr. S. N.

Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajib Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Choinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prasad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morone, Dr. H. W. B.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilal Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 63 and the Noes 62, the motion was carried.

Upon the declaration of the result of the division, a demonstration took place in the upper gallery: whereupon Mr. President ordered the gallery to be cleared.

The gallery was cleared accordingly under the direction of the Secretary of the Council.

Babu SARAT CHANDRA BASU: May I rise to a point of order? Are the Hon'ble Ministers in order in voting on this motion in which they are personally interested?

Mr. PRESIDENT: They are quite in order. There is nothing to prevent them from voting.

Babu SARAT CHANDRA BASU: Might I know as to whether the Hon'ble Ministers are entitled to record their votes when they themselves are personally concerned?

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Ministers have the right to vote. In the House of Commons, they vote for their salary. There is nothing whatever in the Act to prevent the Ministers from voting.

Babu SARAT CHANDRA BASU: Under the Local Government Act they are not authorised to vote.

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is a matter which has nothing to do with us here.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 15,600 for pay of Deputy Secretary for the Legislative Department under the head '22E.—Legislative Council,' be reduced by Rs. 6,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 1,10,000 under the head "22F.—Legislative Council—Travelling Allowance" be reduced by Rs. 10,000.

He spoke in Bengali, the translation of which is as follows:—

As much has been said under this item, I do not like to take up the time of the Council, Sir, when the question of the Ministers' salaries was taken up, keen enthusiasm was evinced by the Swarajists, and now is the time for them to show what self-sacrifice means. If my motion is accepted, there will be no difficulty whatsoever in finding out the means by which economy can be effected under this item.

The following motions were called but not moved:

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 1,15,500 under the head '22F.—Legislative Council—Allowances, honoraria, etc.,' be refused."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 1,15,500 under the head '22F.—Legislative Council—Allowances, honoraria, etc.,' be reduced by Rs. 64,000."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 3,07,000 under the head '22F.—Legislative Council,' be reduced by Rs. 23,000."

MEMBER in charge of APPOINTMENT (LEGISLATIVE) DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-Rahim): The position is this: It is perfectly true that several members have been travelling second and third class, but it is also true that there are many members who have been making more prolonged stay in Calcutta and that therefore they are entitled to more payment by way of residential allowances. Of course the figures that have been given with the statement are more or less approximate based on the actuals and the budget of the previous year. But I understand it will be possible to accept a reduction of Rs. 5,000 and not Rs. 10,000 as proposed by the Shah Sahib. If he is agreeable to a reduction of Rs. 5,000, I am prepared to accept his suggestion.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ spoke in Bengali to the effect that he would not accept a cut of Rs. 5,000 only but would stick to his original motion.

The motion of Shah Syed Emdadul Haq was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Cafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Ray, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Cheimuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. G. M.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Nadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morone, Dr. N. W. B.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.

The Ayes being 6 and the Noes 35, the motion was lost.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 14,000 under the head '22G.—General Administration—Civil Secretariat—Finance, Commerce and Marine Departments—Officers on special duty,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 2,75,600 under the head '22G.—Civil Secretariat—Finance, Commerce and Marine Departments,' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 61,300 under the head '22G.—General Administration—Civil Secretariat (Reserved)—Pay of Officers,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 6,16,700 under the head '22G. General Administration—Civil Secretariat (Reserved) Pay of Establishment,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 19,500 under the head "22G.—Civil Secretariat—House-rent and other Allowance" be reduced by Rs. 4,500.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 48,000 under the head '22G. General Administration—Civil Secretariat Reserved—Allowances, Honoraria, etc.,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 53,400 under the head '22G. General Administration—Civil Secretariat Reserved—Contingencies,' be refused."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 7,79,000 under 'Detailed Account No. 22G.—Civil Secretariat (Reserved),' be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of FINANCE (the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald): I do not understand what this Rs. 4,500 has reference to. I have got an estimate of my expenditure here and I do not see any reason for altering the estimate by this small cut. I cannot understand what it is meant for. Therefore I oppose it.

The motion of Shah Syed Emdadul Haq was then put and lost.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 18,400 under the head '22G.—General Administration—Civil Secretariat Transferred—Local Self-Government and Education Department—Assistant Secretary' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 18,400 for pay of Assistant Secretary to the Local Self-Government and Education Departments under the head '22G.—Civil Secretariat,' be reduced by Rs. 8,800."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 32,261 under the head '22G.—General Administration—Civil Secretariat, Transferred—Pay of Officers,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,83,887 under the head "22G.—General Administration—Civil Secretariat Transferred—Pay of Establishment,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 5,000 for travelling allowances under the head '22G.—Civil Secretariat—(Transferred)—Allowances,' be reduced by Rs. 2,500."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 4,500 for Hill Allowance under the head "22G.—Civil Secretariat—(Transferred)—Allowances,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 6,500 for house rent and other allowances under the head '22.—Civil Secretariat—(Transferred)—Allowances,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 16,000 under the head "22G.—General Administration—Civil Secretariat Transferred—Allowances, Honoraria, etc.,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,500 for Hill journey charges under the head '22G.—Civil Secretariat (Transferred)—Contingencies,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 8,500 for office expenses and miscellaneous under the head '22G.—Civil Secretariat—Transferred—Contingencies,' be reduced by Rs. 4,500."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 18,125 under the head "22G.—General Administration—Civil Secretariat Transferred—Contingencies,' be refused."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 2,50,000 under 'Detailed Account No. 22G.—Civil Secretariat (Transferred),' be reduced by Rs. 50,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 3,000 for travelling allowance under the head "22H.—Board of Revenue,' be reduced by Rs. 1,500."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,250 for Hill Allowances under the head '22H.—Board of Revenue,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 600 for Hill Journey charges under the head '22H.—Board of Revenue, be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 4,000 for other non-contract contingencies under the head '22H.—Board of Revenue,' be reduced by Rs. 2,500."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 81,000 under the head '22H.—General Administration—Board of Revenue,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 81,000 under the head '22H.—Board of Revenue,' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 1,95,000 for 'Pay and Establishments' under the head '22J.—Commissioners,' be refused."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 24,000 for Allowances, Honoraria, etc., under the head '22J.—Commissioners,' be refused."

Babu HEM CHANDRA NASKER and Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 2,240 for purchase and keep of elephants under the head '22J.—Commissioners,' be refused."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 3,352 for supplies and services under the head '22J.—Commissioners,' be refused."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 46,889 for Contingencies under head '22J.—Commissioners,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu NALINIRANJAN SARKAR, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 2,69,000 under the head '22J.—General Administration—Commissioners,' be refused."

Rai SATYENDRA NATH ROY CHAUDHURI Bahadur: "That demand for Rs. 2,69,000 under the head '22J.—Commissioners,' be reduced by Rs. 1,07,600."

Babu JATINDRA NATH BASU: "That the demand for Rs. 2,69,000 under the head '22J.—Commissioners,' be reduced by Re. 1."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: I move that the demand of Rs. 1,60,000 under the head "22K.—General Establishment—Pay of Collectors and Magistrates" be refused.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I oppose it, Sir.

The motion was put and lost.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,60,000 for pay of Collectors and Magistrates under the head '22K.—General Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 40,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 24,31,000 for pay of Deputy and Sub-Deputy Magistrates under the head '22K.—General Establishment' be reduced by Rs. 6,00,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 24,31,000 under the head '22K.—General Establishment—Pay of Deputy and Sub-Deputy Magistrates,' be reduced by Rs. 2,43,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand for Rs. 4,00,000 for travelling allowances under the head '22K.—General Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 2,00,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 45,000 for house-rents and other allowances under the head '22K.—General Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 30,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 45,000 unded the head '22K.—General Establishment—House-rent, etc.,' be reduced by Rs. 15,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 4,45,000 under the head '22K.—General Establishment—Allowances, honoraria, etc.,' be reduced by Rs. 2,00,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: I move that the demand of Rs. 50,000 under the head "22K.—General Establishment—Law Charges" be reduced by Rs. 25,000.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I understand the Shah Sahib has moved it. Whatever it is, I oppose it.

The motion was put and lost.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 10,000 under the head '22K.—General Establishment—Purchase of tents,' be reduced by Rs. 7,000."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 57,54,500 under the head '22K.—General Establishment be reduced by Rs. 2,00,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 30,000 for travelling allowance under the head '22L.—Subdivisional Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 15,000."

Babu MONMOHAN NEOGI: "That the demand of Rs. 30,000 for discretionary grants by heads of provinces under the head '22.—General Administration,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 25,91,000 under the head '22K to M.—General Administration—District Administration—Pay of Officers,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 18,53,400 under the head '22K to M.—General Administration—District Administration—Pay of Establishment,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 4,50,800 under the head '22K to M.—General Administration—District Administration Allowances, honoraria, etc.,' be refused."

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 6,49,800 under the head '22K to M. General Administration District Administration Supplies and Services,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 4,49,500 under the head '22K to M. General Administration—District Administration Contingencies,' be refused."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 59,94,500 under 'Detailed Account Nos. K to M. District Administration—General Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 59,94,5000 under the head '22K to M.—District Administration,' be reduced by Rs. 500."

Babu JATINDRA NATH BASU: "That the demand for Rs. 59,94,500 under the head '22K to M.—District Administration,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Maulvi SAYEDAL HOQUE: "That the demand of Rs. 92,13,000 under the head '22. General Administration (Reserved),' be reduced by Rs. 46,00,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 92,13,000 under the head '22. General Administration (Reserved),' be reduced by Rs. 15,06,000."

Dr. H. W. B. MORENO: I move that the demand for Rs. 92,13,000 under the head "22.—General Administration—(Reserved)" be reduced by Rs. 100.

At the outset I may say that a motion of this kind is not intended to precipitate any crisis. Anybody can see that a cut of Rs. 100 in a demand of Rs. 92 lakhs can effect very little. I desire, however, to hang upon that peg, some of the grievances of the community that I represent in order that those grievances may be brought to prominence, grievances that the Anglo-Indian community are suffering from. There is not the least doubt that in India there is to be a gradual Indianisation not only of the Government but of the Services. In the preamble of the great Act embodying the Reforms we find these words in support:—

> It is the declared policy of Parliament to provide for the increasing association of Indians in every branch of the Indian administration for the gradual development of self-governing institutions with a view to the progressive realisation of responsible Government in British India as an integral part of the British Empire.

It has been definitely held that so far as the Services are concerned the Anglo-Indians are recognised as Indians. There is section 6 of 33 and 34, Victoria, Chapter III, which lays down the principle that should guide the community as to its status. The Section reads:—

> A native of India shall include any person domiciled within the dominions of His Majesty of persons habitually resident in India and not established there for temporary purpose only.

That should convince the people of India that in the Indianisation of the Services and of the Government the Anglo-Indians cannot be excluded. It is found, however, that in most of the services under Government whereas Anglo-Indians held once very prominent positions of trust and responsibility they are now found in diminishing numbers in such positions of influence and affluence.

That the community has talent and ability is evidenced from its past history. The community could once boast of men of the type of Colonel Skinner, C. B., Major Hessing, Captain Doveton and men of the

ability of H. L. V. Derozio, Palmer, the prince of merchants, the Gardiners—to mention only a very few names—to convince the people that there was no lack of talent in the community in the past; nor is there a lack even at present time. But I note that while other communities have enjoyed good percentages of employment under Government, in some way or other the Anglo-Indian community has been excluded to a very large extent and is suffering considerably thereby. The community has come down steadily from bad to worse and now is in a state bordering on pauperism—if I may use that strong expression. There has been going on a gradual process of deterioration in the community till it has been reduced to its present condition of dire penury and distress.

In the Poverty Commission Report of 1896 an inquiry was made into the condition of the community and it was discovered that 19 per cent of the community were in receipt of charity. That means that out of every 5 persons one was a pauper in the year 1896. Very recently in the year 1918-19 an inquiry was held here as to the condition of this community of Calcutta. Calcutta may be taken as a general index of the state of the community which has spread over the length and breadth of India. In this city the inquiry showed that about 10 per cent of the community obtained direct assistance from charities and that over 13 per cent. were in receipt of direct assistance from schools including free boarding grants. This shows that about 25 per cent. of the people—to speak in round numbers—were in receipt of charity in the year 1918, so that one in every 4 was in receipt of some form of charity at the time. There is not the least doubt that as things now stand the figure has considerably risen and will, perhaps, be no exaggeration to say that at the present moment one in every three in the community is in receipt of charity. This is enough to show how by the force of circumstances and during the flux of time the Anglo-Indian community has come down to its present deplorable position. It may be harrowing to give such details here, but it should be enough to convince the people how the community has suffered right through.

Now, we are told that there is to be the Indianisation of the Services and the Indianisation of the Government as well. We are not opposed, Sir, to this principle laid down by an Act of Parliament. We do feel and we do think, however, that while great things were taking place we were somehow or other being overlooked so far as our claims for recognition by the Government is concerned. I understand there are standing orders in the Government Secretariat—I speak subject to correction on this point—that a certain percentage of appointments should be held by Anglo-Indians and we were also told that those percentages were to be steadily maintained in the various Government offices. But, Sir, what is the present position? We find that though the letter of the law is there, the spirit is broken, and the Anglo-Indians are not found in such numbers which therefore, merits serious criticism to the contrary. In the Railways, especially State Railways—most of the Railways are going to be

soon Governmentised—they are losing the positions they once held and are now in a state of disadvantage. The positions they once held in the Customs Department, in the Indian Medical Department, in the Military Services are now being gradually lost to them. Somehow or other their claims have been overlooked, because the community is a minority community and is not loud enough in it claims for preference. We urge upon the Government a serious consideration of the present state of affairs, we urge upon the Government the necessity of considering whether or not ampler provision should not be made for the employment of Anglo-Indians in its offices.

I would also urge upon the Government the necessity of employing Anglo-Indian ladies as typists and shorthand typists in its offices. There is not the least doubt at those posts are very humble ones in the way of the emoluments they offer, but they will certainly offer some sort of attraction to Anglo-Indian ladies, who I am sure will do credit to themselves if employed under Government as shorthand writers or typists. They are employed in mercantile offices and prove a valuable asset there. I think, Sir, the Government might with advantage copy the example of the merchants in this respect and employ such Anglo-Indian lady-typists and shorthand writers

As I have already said, Sir, it is not, at all, my intention to precipitate anything in the way of a crisis by moving this motion, but I desire to take the opportunity to bring home to the powers that be the necessity of some definite provision being made for us in the future. It has been said, Sir, that the first step in the degradation of a community is its lack of competition with other communities. We have seen how the Anglo-Indian has been somehow or other unable to keep pace with the greater communities of India in this competition for appointments. The next step in the process of degradation is poverty and in its present position the community is not far removed from that point. In the public papers we have had large calls made for charity on behalf of this community and His Excellency the Governor of Bengal has given a noble example by initiating a scheme for the relief of the members of the community that are distressed; but the mere giving out of doles in the way of charity cannot solve for all time the growing burden of unemployment found especially in the Anglo-Indian community.

Furthermore, if the present state of the community is overlooked you will have to face criminality on the part of the community in the near future for that is the last stage of degradation. If you continue to overlook the aspirations of the community and bring it down to a state of abject penury and distress you will have to face criminality in the next generation. That the Government of India had long before foreseen such a future for the community will be evident if I read an extract or two from persons in authority who had real sympathy with the aspirations of the community. In 1859, Lord Canning reviewing the whole

position of the community gave vent to these memorable words :—

It might be long before it (the Anglo-Indian community) can be called a class dangerous to the State, but a very few years will make it, if neglected, a glaring reproach to the Government. On the other hand if cared for betimes, it will be a source of strength to British rule and of usefulness to India. The Eurasian class (as they were known then, now they are known as Anglo-Indians) have special claims upon the British Government who have called them into being.

Lord Canning realised the responsibility that fell upon the shoulders of the British Government in regard to the Anglo-Indian community and he fearlessly expressed it. Twenty-two years later Lord Lytton in his famous Despatch on European Education gave vent to similar feelings in very striking words when he said :—

It has been rightly said that one very special reason why Government cannot afford to ignore the growth in India of an uninstructed European population is that in the case of the European his capacity of self-maintenance depends entirely upon the education he receives. He cannot support himself in this country as a day-labourer, or by adopting the vocation of a Native (Indian) peasant An uneducated European almost necessarily becomes an idle, and often a dangerous, member of the community ; on the other hand, it must be remembered, that he or his English ancestor was brought to India originally to do the work that could be done only by the European, a fact which in itself gives him some claim to consideration. The climate is uncongenial to him, the cost of living is necessarily disproportionate to his means, and he is deprived, at the same time, of those educational opportunities that are now available at home to the poorest of the working class. In all these respects the European parent is placed at a disadvantage and it thus becomes necessary for the Government to come to his assistance.

These words were written long ago, but they are as true to-day as when they were first given expression to. Sir, the loyalty of the community has been unquestioned from the very inception of the community in India, over 200 years ago. It has stood nobly and devotedly by those who are in authority. It has given of its best whenever it has been asked; but "sufferance is the badge of all our tribe." When there is any serious disturbance the community is called upon as Civil Guards to protect the interests of the citizens. During the late Great War we were asked to give our quota and we gave it willingly and devotedly in the interests of the Government and the country. But, Sir, somehow or other when peace once more smiled other considerations were taken into account and our claims were overlooked. I appeal then to the Government to see that some provision be made for the Anglo-Indian community in view of its present distressful state. I appeal also to those who have the interests of India at heart that the ambitions of such a worthy community, though it be in the menority, are protected at any cost. I appeal to the Government in the name of my community because I feel that the aching wound of the distress is still within us. We are loyal and will continue to be so to the very end, but we do pray and hope that, when rewards and honours are to be divided, the Anglo-Indian community will not be overlooked.

It is for this purpose that I have moved my amendment, in order that the acute distress of the community may be brought forward and exposed

to view in order that some provision may be made for it, because it has stood nobly by Government in the maintenance of law and order as it has stood by the other great communities of India in their great constitutional struggle for liberty and enfranchisement.

Mr. H. BARTON: It is a matter of deep regret that my friend Dr. Moreno, has seen fit to put forward such a motion before the Council at such an inopportune time. I thought the cut epidemic was confined to only one party in this House but I now find that he has become infected. In his speech Dr. Moreno will have ample opportunity of defending the community when the educational demands comes up, but to introduce a resolution of this sort while the atmosphere of the House is what it is, is to my mind rather bad form. Is it the Anglo-Indian community alone that is suffering from unemployment and from poverty? There are other communities who are similarly suffering. We know that Government is in a very difficult position so far as finding employment or relief for them is concerned. To make the question of unemployment a reason for tabling a motion for a cut when the position of the House has been already determined for and against the cuts is beyond my conception. So I am sorry I cannot lend my support to the proposal of my supposed colleague, Dr. Moreno.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I take it that this motion is intended as the mover says, to call attention to certain points and to elicit an answer from Government. So far as this motion is concerned it is restricted within the limits of general administration. I cannot follow him into the question of the railways or any other employment under the Government of India. So far as employment under the local Government is concerned there are two forms within this budget—employment in the Secretariat or district offices and employment in the services. As regards employment in the district offices I am sure the mover will agree that there are insuperable difficulties. So far as appointment in the Secretariat is concerned the matter has been under discussion since Lord Curzon's time. As the mover has pointed out the Anglo-Indians have clearly been driven gradually out to a certain extent by the growing competition of other communities. In 1901 a proposal was made to have a special cadre in the Bengal Secretariat consisting of Europeans and Anglo-Indians. By 1907 it was found that it would not work as there were administrative and other difficulties and the Accountant-General said it was impossible to run a cadre of that kind. That separate cadre was therefore abandoned and an attempt was made to obtain a suitable proportion of Europeans and Anglo-Indian clerks in the Secretariat by nomination and it was laid down in the rules that every third vacancy should be given to a European or Anglo-Indian until the suitable number each office could take was obtained. That is nominally

the present position but there again there are difficulties. It is practically impossible, I think the mover will agree, to get suitable Europeans or Anglo-Indians right at the bottom of the lower division of the Secretariat. Therefore, the percentage must be counted not on the total number of appointments in the Secretariat but on the upper division posts. But there again further difficulty came in because after the McAlpin Committee's recommendations were carried out and the Secretariat was divided into upper and lower divisions a certain number of those who entered the lower division were entitled to proceed to the higher division if they were fit for it because they entered the lower division in the Secretariat in that hope. Therefore, their claims struck across the claims of those who would be recruited direct to the upper division. A few years ago the block was so bad that I think Sir Henry Wheeler ordered that in the Secretariat no outsider should be taken until the lower division clerks have received their reasonable divisions. That, Sir, is the reason why the present number is somewhat less than the proportion laid down by the Government. I can only assure the mover that the Government are as sympathetic to his community as to other minority communities and that they will do their best to do what he desires that we should do. I suggest that in view of this explanation the mover will withdraw his motion.

Mr. H. W. B. MORENO: My real object in moving this motion was to evoke a discussion on the subject, Sir, and in spite of the many ungenerous remarks made, I maintain my object has been fulfilled. I beg leave then to withdraw the motion.

The motion was then, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Romes Babu, the words "as amended by the Council" should be inserted after the words "General Administration."

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: Very well, Sir, I beg to move that the demand of Rs. 96,83,000 under the head "22.—General Administration," as amended by the Council be refused.

Babu Bejoy Krishna Bose, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq Chaudhury, and Babu Manmatha Nath Roy rose in their places in support of the motion but made no speeches.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I have nothing to say with regard to this further move in the path of obstruction.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.

Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Beroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nathar, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Hussyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chainuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Does, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Moreno, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Bukah.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 65 and the Noes 64, the motion was carried.

The following motion standing in the name of Dr. Pramathanath Banerjea was not taken up as it was covered by the decision on the previous motion:—

"That the demand of Rs. 96,83,000 under the head '22.—General Administration,' be reduced by Rs. 2,00,000."

[The Council was then adjourned for 15 minutes.]

[After the adjournment.]

24.—Administration of Justice.

MEMBER in charge of JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-Rahim): I move that a sum of Rs. 94,73,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "24.—Administration of Justice."

It is not necessary for me nor is it desirable, Sir, that I should make a speech on this occasion. All that I wish to say is that this budget provides for the different Courts of Justice and their auxiliary establishments in this Province. Whether hon'ble members think that these courts ought to be maintained or whether an Utopia would be established by sweeping away these courts from the Province, it is for them to decide. I find Mr. C. R. Das, the leader of the Swaraj party, is very happy at the prospect that all the courts will be swept away. So far as he himself is concerned it is his look-out. But I believe that there are other members of the learned profession who would seriously consider whether the courts in which they practise and from which some of them rush into the Chamber in order to vote down the Government should not be kept up.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY: "That the demand of Rs. 24,500 under the head '24.—High Court—Official Receiver' be refused."

Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: I move that the demand for Rs. 35,940 under the head "24A.—High Court," for the provision for preparation of Paper Books in the Appellate Side of the High Court be refused.

I would only beg to remind the House that a similar proposal was brought forward in the last Council and as I am given to understand the sense of the House was that this grant should be refused.

The Hon'ble Sir ABD-UR-RAHIM: I may point out to the mover that the grant was voted and not refused.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY formally supported the motion.

Babu HEM CHANDRA NASKER: The hon'ble members who have already addressed the Council on this subject were not in the old Council and hence I take the liberty of placing the history of the Paper Book question in a nutshell. In the first year of the Reforms a demand was for the first time made for the preparation of the Paper Book in

spite of strong opposition from the litigants, expressed through the press and from the platforms and in spite of vehement protests of the vakils of the Calcutta High Court and of various bars throughout the Province. The demand was rejected by the Council and the Governor did not at first restore it but His Excellency afterwards did it at the intervention of the Government of India under which the High Court is placed. Sir, at the time of the demand it was indicated by the Hon'ble Member in charge that the demand will be recouped from the litigants.

In the subsequent year again a demand for Rs. 50,000 was made but nothing was shown in the revenue side of the budget estimate. The Council again refused it but in a supplementary demand the Council gave its assent to the demand.

Last year a demand was made under a quite different name but for a Paper Book and why, the Hon'ble Member in charge will explain. This year again that convenient course adopted last year has been abandoned and I thank the Hon'ble Member for it.

The Court-fees Act has been amended which has seriously affected the litigants and if this newly introduced system be allowed to continue with the assistance of Government revenue the litigants will be shut out from the highest tribunal of the country. Let the litigants be directed to supply their own Paper Books to be prepared under rigid rules laid down by the High Courts as was done since the establishment of the High Court till 1920.

I have only one word to add. A committee was appointed for retrenching the expences of the High Court. That Committee has submitted its report and it is rumoured that the Committee suggested to maintain the Paper Book department for one year and if after the end of one year the department be not self-supporting it should be abolished. I cannot vouch to the accuracy of this statement but the Hon'ble Member or Mr. Surendra Nath Ray, a member of the Committee, may contradict this statement.

Apart from all other questions this demand ought to be refused on the simple ground of economy. I asked the hon'ble members of this Council to refuse their assent. Several Chief Justices beginning with Sir Barnes Peacock and ending with Sir Lawrence Jenkins and other Judges like Mr. Justice Dwarkanath Mitter, Sir Romesh Chandra Mitter, Sir Chandra Madhab Ghosh, Sir Gooroodas Banerjee and other eminent Judges did not ask for this expensive system, expensive to both the litigants and the Government. I am sure this refusal will not affect the quality of judgment.

The Hon'ble Sir ABD-UR-RAHIM: This question, Sir, has been debated often, but Maulvi Wahed Hossain was mistaken in telling the Council that on the last occasion when the matter was brought up it was refused; it was just the other way.

I do not like to go into the history of the matter. All that I wish to tell the House, or those members who feel the responsibility of deciding the question, that this is a matter which ought to be left to the discretion of the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court, as they alone after all are responsible for the administration of justice, and I take it that if they think strongly that the Paper Books, *i.e.*, the books containing the documents necessary for dealing with the appeals submitted to their Lordships ought to be prepared under the supervision of the High Court, I submit to this House that Hon'ble Members will not interfere with their discretion. There is one matter, however, which I think it would be right on my part to bring to the special attention of the Council and it is that the Government has made it a condition from the very beginning that the cost of the preparation of the Paper Books in the appeals should not fall on the general revenues of the province: they must be met by the particular litigants who wish to conduct their appeals in the High Court. I think that is all we are concerned with in this matter. The Retrenchment Committee which dealt with the question came to the conclusion that the High Court should be given some time in order to make their arrangements in such a way as to make the department entirely self-supporting, and I wish to inform the House that the High Court has very much reduced the expenditure under this head. The Government of India which controls the High Court of Bengal has decided that another year should be given in order to see that this department is made self-supporting. I therefore submit that it is not too much to ask hon'ble members to let this department go on until we are satisfied that it will not be a charge on the general revenues of the Province.

On the motion being put a division was taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Sejay Krishna
Chakraverti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjea, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Sereda Prasad.
Dafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Canguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anthharan.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath

Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Ray, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Ray, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Ray, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Ray Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nailniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Taraifdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barten, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chainuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Meberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Amyers.

The Ayes being 67 and the Noes 56, the motion was carried.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: "That the demand of Rs. 35,940 under the head '24A.—High Court—Temporary establishment and provision for preparation of Paper Books' be reduced by Rs. 24,168."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 10,41,000 under the head '24A.—High Court' be reduced by Rs. 4,800."

Babu HEM CHANDRA NASKER: "That the demand of Rs. 42,000 for the pay of the Solicitor to the Government under the head '24B.—Law Officers' be reduced by Rs. 6,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 2,40,000 under the head '24B.—Law Officers—Fees to Pleaders in Criminal Casese' be refused."

He addressed the Council in Bengali.

The Hon'ble Sir ABD-UR-RAHIM: I could not hear what the Shah Sahib said in his speech, but I understand that he wants that all the law officers of the courts be dispensed with. If the grant is refused, the courts of justice will be closed, and I suppose the law officers will disappear.

The motion was put and lost.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 2,40,000 under the head '24B.—Law Officers—Fees to Pleaders in Criminal Cases' be reduced by Rs. 50,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 2,40,000 under the head '24B.—Law Officers—Fees to Pleaders in Criminal Cases' be reduced by Rs. 40,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 5,80,000 under the head '24B.—Law Officers' be refused."

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 1,51,000 under the head '24C.—Administrator-General and Official Trustee' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 46,200 under head '24E.—Presidency Magistrates' Courts—Presidency Magistrates' be reduced by Rs. 7,200."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 24,600 for Pay of Municipal Magistrates under the head '24E.—Presidency Magistrates' be reduced by Rs. 4,600."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 10,000 under the head '24E.—Presidency Magistrates—Leave Allowances to Officers' be reduced by Rs. 2,500.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,95,000 under the head '24E.—Presidency Magistrates' Courts' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 2,36,000 under the head '24F.—Civil and Sessions Courts—Pay of the District and Sessions Judges' be reduced by Rs. 80,000."

The following motion standing in the name of Shah Syed Emdadul Haq was by leave of the Council withdrawn:—

"That the demand Rs. 16,66,000 under the head '24F.—Civil and Sessions Courts Pay of Munsif' be reduced by Rs. 80,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 40,000 under the head "24F.—Civil and Sessions Courts—Provision for temporary District and Sessions Judges" be refused.

He addressed the Council in Bengali.

The Hon'ble Sir ABD-UR-RAHIM: The reason for this amendment is that Government is extravagant in providing for temporary Judges. I can assure the House that, as a matter of fact, whenever we receive any application for the appointment of temporary judges, we go into the matter with extreme care. The procedure is that the Sessions Judges who are responsible for the administration of Justice in particular districts, make representations to the High Court whenever they find that the work, either on the civil or the criminal side, has so accumulated that it is not possible to deal with it with the ordinary staff; then the High Court forward these representations with their recommendation to us and we examine the figures, and if we agree with the High Court and the District and Sessions Judges, then and then only we appoint temporary Judges.

The motion was put and lost.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 77,000 under the head '24F.—Civil and Sessions Court—Provision for Temporary Subordinate Judges' be refused."

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 14,000 under the head '24F.—Civil and Sessions Courts—House-rent and other allowances' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 69,82,000 under the head '24F.—Civil and Sessions Courts' be refused."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 69,82,000 under the head '24F.—Administration of Justice—Civil and Sessions Courts' be reduced by Rs. 9,74,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 3,60,000 under the head '24G.—Court of Small Causes' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 16,900 under the head '24H.—Criminal Courts' be refused."

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: I move that the demand of Rs. 94,73,000 under the head "24.—Administration of Justice," as amended in Council be refused.

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: I support the motion.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: I support the motion.

Babu MANMATHA NATH RAY: I also support the motion.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ spoke in Bengali in support of the motion.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I support the motion.

The Hon'ble Sir ABD-UR-RAHIM: I shall not attempt to try to understand the mentality of the members of the Swaraj party. It is beyond my poor comprehension as it is past the comprehension of many other members of this House. We have had debates on some specific items. Why these specific items were debated, it is difficult for me to understand, unless it be for the purpose of securing a favourable division; of any other purpose I am totally ignorant. Mr. C. R. Das and his party know more than I do. But I cannot allow this matter to go to a division without saying just a few words. I do not belong to a profession which some of the members do, where continually watching, day after day, hour after hour the struggle between life and death has tended to develop in some hon'ble member a faculty for levity. I belong on the other hand to the profession of law where we take the courts of justice most seriously; where many of the members who are such prominent figures in this House, prominent either for good or for evil it will be for the country to decide, earn their daily living, where they learn that skill and power of debate of which they make such display in this House. These courts of justice have existed in this province for many a year, more than a century, and I should have thought that our educated, men of Bengal who talk so eloquently of freedom and of the sanctity of men's liberty, would have some respect at least for the courts. We heard the other day, and we have heard almost every day since, great declamations and flights of oratory on Regulation III of 1818; that Regulation has been condemned, but on what ground? Mainly on the ground that the men ought to be tried in the courts of justice. Now it is seriously proposed, by a very large section of the members in this House, to close down these courts. Well, it means this: that while in one breath you are protesting that no man ought to be restrained or his personal liberty taken away unless he has been tried by a court of justice, you are in the same breath asking this House seriously to withhold the funds by which these courts of justice can be maintained. I submit this is not a matter of levity. I appeal to all the members of this House, especially the members on the right, to stop this sort of game; we have not come here to

play at a farce, we are here to exercise serious functions, in a very serious matter.

On the motion being put a division was taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chundrr, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Beroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Naskor, Babu Hem Chendra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chanora.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Cheinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
De, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Chuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharrul.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.

Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morono, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. G.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abdur.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manikeli Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Suhrawardy, Major Hassan.
Swan, Mr J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 66 and the Noes 56, the motion was carried.

Adjournment.

The Council was then adjourned till 3 P.M. on Tuesday, the 25th March, 1924, at the Town Hall, Calcutta.

Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Government of India Act.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in the Town Hall, Calcutta, on Tuesday, the 25th March, 1924, at 3 P.M.

Present:

The Hon'ble the President in the Chair, the four Hon'ble Members of the Executive Council, the two Hon'ble Ministers, and 124 nominated and elected members.

Allotment of time.

Mr. PRESIDENT (the Hon'ble Mr. H. E. A. Cotton): I desire to point out to members that only 30 minutes have been allotted for this grant. Those members who speak will therefore, I hope, be short, in the interest both of themselves and of those who may wish to speak later.

The Budget of the Government of Bengal, 1924-25.

Demands for Grants.

25.—Jails and Convict Settlements.

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of REVENUE [JAILS] (the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson): I move that a sum of Rs. 35,89,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "25.—Jails and Convict Settlements."

This sum is made up of Rs. 25,57,000 under Jails and Rs. 9,82,000 under Jail Manufactures and Rs. 50,000 under Loss by Exchange. The provision under Jails is practically the same as that of this year, but it is nearly one lakh higher than the revised this year. That is due to the fact that this year we had an abnormally small number of prisoners in the jails, and therefore the cost has gone down. As regards the Jail Manufactures, that, as the members will be aware, is counter-balanced by the receipts from Jail Manufactures. We are budgeting this year Rs. 9,82,000 as against Rs. 10,53,000 in the current year. This demand again depends upon the number of prisoners we have. The sole object of the Jail Manufactures is to employ the prisoners and if there are fewer prisoners there is smaller expenditure on Jail Manufactures and there is consequently a smaller receipt on the receipts side.

In the Jail Department we have given effect, as far as we c[illegible] to the recommendations of the Jail Committee in so far as these can be given effect to without very heavy increased expenditure. The main recommendations of the Jail Committee involving the separation of habituals from others, the starting of a Borstal institution, the conversion of district into subsidiary jails and so forth involve very heavy capital expenditure which this Province is at present unable to face.

As regards the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee, we have decided to provide more central jails and to convert district jails into subsidiary jails. This, again, would involve heavy initial expenditure. We have during the current year converted the Baraset District Jail into a subsidiary jail and we have now under contemplation the conversion of Noakhali jail into a subsidiary jail. Last year there were some objections raised on account of the defalcations in the Jail Department. We had inquiries made into the particular defalcations and punished the officers concerned. We have also taken steps to introduce a commercial system of accounts into our Jail Manufacture Department which, we trust, will obviate the possibility of these defalcations in the future. In the Press and Forms Branch we have accepted the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee. We have a Special Officer on duty reducing the number of forms, the number of different kinds of paper and envelopes, and generally introducing economies in that Branch, and we hope to save quite a considerable amount over that. We are also introducing another thing on which the Retrenchment Committee laid special stress and that is the costing system.

In conclusion I should like to quote as evidence of the success of the Jail administration in the matter of the health of the prisoners, the comparative death-rates between the jail population and the free population for the last three years. In 1920 the death-rate in jails was 21 per mille as against 33 per mille outside jail. In 1921 it was 16 per mille as against 30 per mille outside. In 1922 it was 19 per mille as against ·25 outside and last year, Sir, it was 15 per mille inside. I think, Sir, that those figures are conclusive as to the care which is taken of the prisoners in the jail.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 5,040 under the head '25A.—Jails—Presidency Jail—Pay of Officers—Superintendents and Deputy Superintendents' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 48,900 under the head '25A.—Jails Warder Establishment—Permanent Watch and Ward' be reduced by Rs. 1,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 27,000 under the head '25A.—Jails—Presidency Jail—Supplies and Services and Miscellaneous' be reduced by Rs. 5,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 16,200 under the head '25A.—Jails—Central Jails—Superintendence' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 6,000 under the head '25A.—Jails—Central Jails Deputy Superintendent' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 41,040 under the head '25A.—Jails—Central Jails—Pay of Establishment and Jailors and Deputy and Assistant Jailors' be reduced by Rs. 6,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 6,000 under the head '25A.—Jails—Juvenile Jail—Jailors and Deputy Assistant Jailors' be reduced by Rs. 1,200."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 4,500 under the head '25A.—Jails—Subsidiary Jails—Warder Establishment —Temporary Watch and Ward' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 10,000 under the head '25A.—Jails—Subsidiary Jails—other contingent charges' be reduced by Rs. 2,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 25,57,000 under the head '25A.—Jails' be refused."

Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: "That the demand for Rs. 25,57,000 under the head '25A.—Jails' be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 25,57,000 under the head '25.—Jails' be reduced by Rs. 60,000."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 25,57,000 under 'Detailed Account No. 25A.—Jails' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 9,82,000 under the head '25B.—Jail Manufactures' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: I move that the demand of Rs. 35,89,000 under the head "25.—Jails and Convict Settlements" be refused.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I must admit that there is perhaps rather more justification for a motion of this kind under this head than under any of the other heads with which we have had to deal, because, Sir, the Council having yesterday rejected the demand for Courts, presumably it is thought there will be no necessity for a demand for Jails. Also possibly there may be some lurking idea that if the demand for Jails is thrown out, the prisoners must necessarily be released. But, Sir, that idea if it does exist—I am assured it does not—would naturally be an entirely erroneous one. The only effect of throwing out the Jail budget on the prisoners already in jail would be that having no money to feed them we shall have to starve them. (A VOICE: Restoration.) Restoration does not rest with this Council, it rests with His Excellency, and we have no right in this Council to assume any action which His Excellency may take. The rejection of this demand, therefore, means that the jails will be denuded of their warders and staff and that we should have to employ persons whose salaries are on the non-voted list for the purpose of looking after the jails, and even then we shall not have money to provide food for the jail prisoners. But I may assume that this motion is merely one of the many steps down the hill which the Council has taken so far, and from that point of view it is perhaps useless to bring forward any further argument to try and stay their facile descent to Avernus.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayabuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjea, Babu Satya Kishore.
Bose, Babu Bejay Krishna.
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Soreda Prasad
Gatur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haldar, Mr. S. N.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Maki Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Muksrjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmanen.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Ray, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Ray, Mr. D. N.
Ray, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Ray, Mr. Satcowripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinirnjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Taraifdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Law, Raja Keshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Moreno, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.

The Ayes being 52 and the Noes 47, the motion was carried.

26.—Police.

MEMBER in charge of POLICE DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson): I move that a sum of Rs. 1,70,47,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "26.—Police."

As, Sir, there are indications that a considerable portion of the House does not wish to debate this subject or any subject that comes before the Council, I should like to take this opportunity of giving a few figures with regard to certain statements that have been made in the Press of late as to the crime in Calcutta and the steps that have been taken to reduce it. I have seen recently an account of a meeting of our friends, the Marwaris, which gave voice to certain complaints regarding the condition even now in Burrabazar, and while admitting that the police force in Calcutta was not adequate to deal with the crime, they complained that sufficient has not been done, and they appear to be under a misapprehension as to what the actual facts were.

Well, Sir, I will give very briefly a few figures. The House will remember that the Goonda Act was introduced and came into force actually about last June. There has been no case of robbery in Burrabazar in the whole of the last quarter of the last year. There has been one case during the present quarter, but there are reasons for believing that that is not a true case. The percentage of detection in Calcutta crimes last year in cases reported was 83;4 which was the highest that I can find it has ever been. There was a decrease of Rs. 6 lakhs in the amount of property stolen last year. The true cognizable cases fell

last year by 7,000. I think it is perhaps sometimes overlooked what an enormous volume of work is dealt with by the Calcutta Police. Even after the decrease of 7,000 cases, the total number of true cognisable cases dealt with last year was 98,308. The number of persons dealt with last year fell by 10,000 from 111,903 in 1922 to 101,8[illegible] in 1923. As regards the action taken under the Goonda Act, 3[illegible] goondas were ordered to leave Bengal in 1923. Seven persons disobeyed the order and they have been prosecuted. I am taking this opportunity to bring these facts to the notice of this House and of the public because as I say there has been a good deal of misunderstanding as to what the actual present condition regarding the crime in Calcutta is, and as it seems likely that most of the motions on which I might have spoken on this point will probably not be pursued, I have taken this opportunity in my opening speech of doing so.

Now, Sir, I can well understand that the party which wishes to wreck the constitution would have a particular pleasure in throwing out the police budget, but, Sir, at the risk of repetition, I would ask the House to consider seriously what it means. Carried to its logical conclusion it would mean the dismissal of something like 25,000 persons which would mean the withdrawal of all protection from the whole of Bengal and must necessarily lead to anarchy. I am aware, Sir, that most, if not all, of those who propose to vote for the rejection of the grant are doing so in the expectation that their vote will make no difference. I have already dealt with that argument as being an exceedingly illogical one. The House complain that Government have not attended to their wishes and yet they go on forcing Government into a position when they cannot attend to their wishes. But, Sir, I would ask the House to consider what comes next. Does the Swaraj party—I am not speaking of the Independents—does the Swaraj party intend to stand still—can the Swaraj party stand still? Mr. Das has informed us that he proposes as soon as the Council is finished, to get the Pact accepted in every village in Bengal. Well, Sir, what does that mean?

Mr. C. R. DAS: May I rise to a point of personal explanation? I did not say in every village of Bengal but all over Bengal.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I am very glad that Mr. Das intends to leave some villages alone. But in all seriousness: what does this mean? It means an intensive campaign throughout the mufassal—a campaign directed against the Government, not on the constitutional issue, because, as I have already said, on several occasions, the voters of Bengal do not understand and cannot, at the present moment, understand the present constitutional issue. The campaign will be against the Government as such and the fact that the budget has to be thrown out and the very fact that the Government goes on will be used as an additional argument for arousing discontent and dislike of the Government. What do the House think will be the result

of a campaign of that kind? It is perhaps an interesting coincidence that in a manifesto issued by one M. N. Roy from Berlin, addressed to the Congress, the destruction of the Councils from within was placed as one of the items of the programme, the other item including the annulment of all debts, the confiscation without compensation of all land, and class warfare. I do not for a moment accuse the leaders of the Swaraj party of intending to carry out the other items of the programme. But, Sir, what I do say is that, if an intensive campaign is started in Bengal, circumstances will be too strong for the Swaraj party, they will be unable to stop it. It is obvious that the logical sequel to throwing out the budget by this Council is a campaign for the non-payment of taxes. In Bengal, Sir, that campaign can only have one result. It must at once be deflected into a campaign for the non-payment of rent, because the average agriculturist and people living in the district do not pay direct taxes. But they do pay direct rent. In spite of all the endeavours of Babu Anilbaran Ray, who stated the other day that the Swaraj party would endeavour to prevent disorder—in spite of that, circumstances will be too strong for them. If they start that campaign they will almost inevitably be faced with a campaign for the non-payment of rent. I have little hope that anything I say will influence those who have come to the Council with the determination to wreck the constitution so far as it lies in their power. But I will venture on a prophecy and that is that many of those who will vote to-day for throwing out the budget will be very glad of the protection of the police in the years of disorder which they are doing their best to inaugurate.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 80,400 under the head '26A.—Presidency Police Superintendents—Deputy and Assistant Commissioners,' be refused."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 80,400 under 'Detailed Account No. 26A Presidency Police—Superintendence for the pay of Deputy and Assistant Commissioners,' be reduced by Rs. 40,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 88,400 under head '26A.—Presidency Police—Pay of Officers' be reduced by Rs. 76,000."

Babu MONMOHAN NEOGI: "That the demand of Rs. 19,800 for travelling allowance under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—Superintendence' be reduced by Rs. 4,950."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 8,400 for house-rent and other allowances under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—Superintendence' be reduced by Rs. 2,400."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 28,200 for allowances, honoraria, etc., under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—Superintendence' be reduced by Rs. 20,000."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand for Rs. 2,52,400 under Superintendence under the head '26A.—Presidency Police,' be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 2,52,400 under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—Superintendence,' be reduced by Rs. 10,000."

Babu JATINDRA NATH BASU: "That the demand for Rs. 2,52,400 under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—Superintendence,' be reduced by Rs. 1."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: I move that the demand for Rs. 1,65,300 under the head "26.—Presidency Police—Calcutta Police—Pay of Inspectors" be reduced by Rs. 41,325.

Before I enter into details of this particular demand I think I should place before the House the general remarks made by the Retrenchment Committee on the Calcutta police force. Sir, in paragraph 179 of the Retrenchment Committee's Report, we find about the Calcutta police the following remarks—

The Calcutta Police Force is too large and too scattered. The Police Force of Glasgow numbers 2,000 and it should not be necessary to maintain a force of more than 2½ times that number for Calcutta. We have not up-to-date figures of the Police Forces of Bombay and Madras cities, but those that are available show that in reference to area and population the Calcutta staff is the highest.

Perhaps the House is aware that the Retrenchment Committee was presided over by Sir R. N. Mookherji and consisted of Sir Campbell Rhodes, Mr. S. N. Mallik and Rai Abinash Chandra Banerjee Bahadur. They are all loyal and most moderate people and not extremists and their report, I beg to submit, was unanimous. They have dealt with inspectors to which my amendment refers in paragraph 192 of their report. Commenting on the sudden increase of the number of inspectors in 1921 they remarked—

We think that the increase has been too generous and that the number of Inspectors should not exceed 15 per cent. of the combined strength of Sub-Inspectors and Sergeants.

In 1914, Sir, that is in the pre-war days, we employed about 28 inspectors in the Calcutta police. This number continued till 1920 when suddenly the number was doubled and the budget of that year provided for 56 inspectors, and the reason for this increase is given by the Retrenchment Committee as follows:—

We have been informed that this large increase was made in order to provide a career for the officers of the Force.

These are very peculiar reasons for saddling the taxpayers with increased expenditure, and in this connection it is important to remember that every superfluous officer costs, in addition to his pay, a large recurring sum for his accommodation, for an Inspector of Police in Calcutta is entitled to a free house allowance in the town. Then comes his innumerable allowances, costs of his kit and charges for his orderlies. Sir, the committee have recommended that the number of inspectors should not exceed 15 per cent. of the combined strength of sub-inspectors and sergeants. The total number of sub-inspectors and sergeants in Calcutta excluding special departments is about 243, and 15 per cent. of this number is about 36. But the next year's budget for which this demand is made provides for 51 inspectors. I therefore by my amendment propose a reduction of 25 per cent. in the demand which will bring down the number of inspectors to 39, a number which even exceeds the Committee's recommendation by 5. The Government decision in the matter is disappointing. They say that an examination has been made of the duties on which each inspector is employed and it is found that the number cannot be reduced without loss of efficiency. I do not know in what respects the police have become more efficient since 1918 after the doubling of the number of inspectors. At least that is still a mystery to us. If the force could be managed with efficiency with half the present number of inspectors in 1918, I absolutely fail to understand why 15 per cent. increase now, as proposed by me, cannot also maintain the same efficiency. From my past experience of the elasticity of the Government departments, I can further assure the House that if my amendment is carried to-day it will not in the least affect the efficiency of the police force in Calcutta. I therefore commend my amendment to the acceptance of the House.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: In justice to those members of the House who are prepared to discuss the budget as it is, I wish to give quite briefly the reasons why it is impossible to carry out the Kumar Sahib's recommendation. It is admittedly based on the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee. The Retrenchment Committee's recommendations are made in one paragraph and they do not go into the question at all beyond saying that "we have been informed that this large increase was made in order to provide a career for the officers of the force." They also say "we think that the increase has been too generous and that the number of inspectors should not exceed 15 per cent. of the combined strength of sub-inspectors and sergeants." It will be remembered that last year, discussing the question of the Retrenchment Committee's proposals, as regards the police, I pointed out that, owing to the method adopted by the Retrenchment Committee, it was impossible for Government to accept their recommendation without the fullest examination. We do not know who informed the Retrenchment Committee of this, we do not know what

steps the Retrenchment Committee took to investigate the question as to how many inspectors were necessary for Calcutta. As regards the 15 per cent. we do not know on what it is based. It is merely a figure in the air for which no justification has been put forward. In Bombay the actual percentage of inspectors, sergeants and sub-inspectors is 33 per cent., which is considerably over our percentage. Well, Sir, it is quite true that in 1914 and in 1920 a considerable addition was made in the number of inspectors but the mover has omitted to state that a corresponding number of sergeants and sub-inspectors was reduced and I think the House will agree that, although it has been put by the mover it would be unjustifiable——

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: May I interrupt for a moment, Sir I submit that the number of sub-inspectors and sergeants has not been decreased. I find that in 1914 there were 81 sub-inspectors and in 1922-23 there were 100. As regards sergeants I find that in 1914 there were 185 and 1922-23, 152. So I submit that there has been no decrease in the number of these officers.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: Sir, in spite of the interruption I repeat that when 14 inspectorships were created the number of sergeants was decreased by 6 and the number of sub-inspectors by 8, we are not now discussing the total number of sub-inspectors and sergeants in the Calcutta police and I decline to enter into any argument on the subject. It would be wrong if we create posts merely to give extra *bakshesh* to certain officers, but at the same time is it not unjustifiable on the part of Government so to arrange its services that the members have reasonable prospects to look forward to. If you cut down the number of higher appointments you prevent your sub-inspectors from looking to anything higher than sub-inspectorships and this will not be conducive to good work. Last year I did not base my case on the *a priori* reason of percentage or on justification of prospects, but on the actual details of employment of these men. I have here a list as to how each one of these men is employed and the effect of this motion would be to withdraw from 13 important sections of the town the inspectors who are now in charge of them. I think the House will agree that these 13 sections of the town ought to be in charge of men of the status and rank of inspectors. It will be retrograde to remove these inspectors and place these important sections in charge of sub-inspectors.

The motion being put a division was taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahmad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zamnoor.
Alay, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravarti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.

Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Daud, Mr. M.
Dey, Babu Sereda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haldar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syad Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hassain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Tarakanath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohan.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Ray, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Ray, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Ray, Mr. D. N.
Ray, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Ray, Mr. Saleswripati.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Raju Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Darey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. G.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharrul.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morone, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaje.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Ray Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.

The Ayes being 63 and the Noes 53, the motion was carried.

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: I move that the demand of Rs. 2,62,320 for pay of sergeants under the head "26A.—Presidency Police" be reduced by Rs. 1,31,160.

Sir, on the last occasion such a motion was moved in this House during the voting of grants in connection with the last budget. Sir Hugh

Stephenson was pleased to remind the Council at that time that a mixed Police had been considered a necessity for the last 150 years. That may be the case, Sir. But as it is apparent that we have little regard for many hoary institutions and ideas now, I hope Sir Hugh Stephenson will excuse us if we are disposed to show less regard for the hoary shibboleth underlying such arguments for the retention of sergeants on a large scale. Sir, what we contend is this: that if Indians can fill with distinction the higher posts in the Police Service—posts of Superintendents and Deputy Superintendents I cannot understand why the humbler duties of sergeants cannot be discharged and discharged well—by the Indians, I mean trained and qualified Indians. We know, Sir, that Calcutta, being a large port is frequented by foreign sailors and it is also a refuge for many foreign criminals. That may be the case. But, Sir, there are many countries in the world which have got large ports frequented by foreign sailors and large cities where many foreign criminals congregate, yet those countries do not entertain such an imported agency to deal with such elements. Under these circumstances I beg to submit that our country should not be made an exception in this case. Indians, I am quite sure, will be able to discharge this work as efficiently as sergeants and certainly at a less cost, and therefore I propose to reduce this item of expenditure by half.

Mr. NISITH CHANDRA SEN: I do not suppose I am absolutely dense, but I find it very difficult to discover why the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson brought in the name of Mr. M. N. Roy in introducing the grant to the police budget. I noticed his saying that it was a curious coincidence that one of the items in Mr. M. N. Roy's manifesto coincided with the programme that has been adopted by this Council, namely, obstruction from within the Council. Perhaps Sir Hugh is not a voracious reader of newspapers or he does not take much notice of the deliberations of the Congress; if he did, he would have known that as early as 1917 at a special session of the Congress in Calcutta when the question of entry into the Council was discussed the leader of the Swaraj party even then proposed that non-co-operation should take the form of obstruction within the Council, so that it is not the leader of the Swaraj party who has borrowed the idea from Mr. M. N. Roy, but perhaps it was the latter who borrowed from the former. It is a coincidence that Mr. M. N. Roy's manifesto was issued long after this was discussed in Calcutta. Now, there is an idea in the minds of the members of Government as well as of many Europeans that we are against having the police in this country. Nobody knows better than we do that the police force is one of the vital forces which are necessary for the good Government in every country. We are not opposed to the police force, but what we do want is a strong, efficient and honest police force; we do not want a pampered service, pampered not only with regard to their pay and prospects but pampered also with power. Any one who has to do with the police

knows that in this country the police are the pampered children of the Government. You will notice this that whereas there is no anxiety to give house or quarters to Deputy Magistrates or other officers, who are equally a limb of Government, or even to the Civil Service, the Government is always anxious to provide the police officers with quarters. If you want mosquito curtains, it must be for the police, as if the other subordinate officers of Government are never bitten by mosquitos. At the same time everything must be done by the police—it is this which we object to. We are not against providing comforts to the police, but we want the police to be provided with the same comforts that we do give to the postal and civil court peons. Why should they be specially favoured by Government? Why should not the other Government servants be given equal facilities? They are not more important than postal peons or telegraph peons. Let it not be thought that we are against providing comforts to the poor constables. If we are going to provide houses and quarters——

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: Has it anything to do with the provision for pay of sergeants?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I prefer that we should take up the whole matter now as it will save time.

Mr. NISITH CHANDRA SEN: Now the Hon'ble Member objects to my talking generally.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Not generally, because you were discussing the mosquito curtains.

Mr. NISITH CHANDRA SEN: That is an instance of the pampering of the police only. I cannot touch on that resolution as yet but when the time comes I will do it.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You cannot make a second speech about the mosquito curtains. You can discuss it now.

Mr. NISITH CHANDRA SEN: I must obey your ruling.

What I do say is this: we always find that a grant is asked for the police in all shape and form. Now, take the question of sergeants. Last year this very question came up and we had to find money for many highly paid sergeants in Calcutta. The Hon'ble Member said at that time that Calcutta being a port where people of all nationalities congregated, it was necessary to have a large number of police sergeants. I could understand this, if the police sergeants were always employed for that purpose, that is to say, keeping guard over criminal of different nationalities who congregate in Calcutta. As a matter of fact we find that police sergeants were usually kept for inoffensive people. We find a large number of them walking along the corridors of the High Court; we find an equally large number perambulating in the Council premises. I take it that although there are

members of different nationality here they do not want watching over very much. At any rate I do not think that we want protection in these premises. However, these sergeants can easily be done away with; they can easily be replaced by ordinary constables. I think all of us are very peaceful citizens and we shall obey the direction of a constable just as much as the direction of a sergeant. I am giving an illustration as to how these highly paid officers are employed on work which can be equally well managed by a subordinate staff. Now as my friend Kumar Shib Shekhareswar Ray has pointed out from year to year we find an increase in the number of police sergeants; we have yet to be told what the increased duty has been since 1914. Any one who goes to cinemas and theatres will find that there again a large number of police sergeants congregate, I do not know whether they go there to see the *tamasha* or to control the crowd. They are also found usually in the European quarters where, I suppose, the gentlemen are more amenable to law and order. I can understand their being at Burrabazar where they are badly wanted to check goondaism, that is just the place for sergeants. We find them in Chowringhee and Park Street, where our highly civilized friends live. I am sure they will repudiate the charge that they are more offensive than the Indian population and that they require watching in the interest of law and order. I do not know what the Hon'ble Member's answer this time will be, but I do hope that he will make out a case and show us by facts and figures why such a large number of police sergeants are required. Another place where they are usually employed is the Port Commissioners' ferry ghat. There again you have the daily passengers who are walking to the boats or landing from the boats on their way to offices. That is a place where sergeants are hardly necessary. A *pahrawallah* is quite capable of doing the business there that is done by a sergeant. In a poor country where Government cannot find money for useful work, is it necessary to employ highly-paid sergeants to do the work of ordinary constables and if my friends do admit that they are not necessary, I hope they will not make it a party question, and that they will not vote merely at the bidding of their party but that they will vote on reasonable grounds.

I find here a member who sat on the Retrenchment Committee, I mean Rai Abinash Chandra Banerjee Bahadur, who himself said that there ought to be retrenchment in the police sergeants, gladly walking into the other lobby and I hope that the members who accuse us of voting at the bidding of the Swaraj leader, and of course we deny this, will sometimes act up to their principle and vote at the bididng of their conscience and in accordance with their written statements in reports, and not vote merely at the bidding of the Government whips.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: Is there any Government whip? To whom does my friend refer?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I do not know. I know nothing of any whips.

Mr. W. L. TRAVERS: Mr. Sen draws on his own imagination.

Dr. H. W. B. MORENO: I cannot allow to pass unchallenged some of the remarks made by Mr. Nisith Chandra Sen as regards the police force. He spoke of the force as being pampered by Government. Sir, there are several Anglo-Indian gentlemen working as sergeants in the police service. From personal conversation with them I know that far from being pampered, they are running the risk of their prospects being yearly seriously jeopardised. After all, Sir, it does not matter what other people may say of the police force. When the people who are concerned themselves grumble about their position, that is the best reply that can be given to comments of this nature. Then, again, Mr. Sen said that he thought that the High Court did not require the presence of sergeants. If Mr. Sen will go into the history of the High Court he will probably know that not very long ago a dastardly murder took place in the very precincts of the High Court—I believe, the murder of Mr. Justice Norman just as he was coming out of the Court; so that for the protection of the Judges some sort of adequate provision for the safety of their lives should be made, and therefore you will require responsible men for a work of this kind. Mr. Sen also spoke of sergeants wandering on the pantoons where ferries come and go across the river. He is, perhaps, aware that owing to order being not properly kept there by some of the Indian constables in charge on more than one occasion, there has been serious loss of life. Sir, we should not deal lightly with this subject. I think that if Government have to make some sort of provision for this purpose they should see that the provision they make is adequate; and I deplore the introduction of racial questions into the discussions to controvert the actions of the Government. Mr. Sen has also said of the members opposite to him, namely, the people on this side of the House, that they do not vote according to their conscience and conviction. In this connection I should like to assure him that speaking for myself, I have always voted according to my conscience and convictions.

Mr. H. BARTON: I am sorry to take up the time of the House but I wonder why the last speaker, that is, Mr. Sen, should have gone out of his way when dealing with the police service to drag in postal and telegraph peons and claim for them that they should be equally entitled to house accommodation as the police sergeants. I am afraid that Mr. Sen has been very badly informed, because as a matter of fact, postal and telegraph peons are provided with quarters when they are available, and if not available, they draw house rent allowance in lieu.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: In connection with this motion I should like to make one or two observation which I feel will impress the House that in voting for the refusal of the grants we are not actuated by any other consideration than to see the police service in this country improved. Sir, the police in this country believe that they

are not the servants iof the people but their masters. My friend, Mr. Moreno, has told us that because there happen to be a certain number of men whom he describes as Anglo-Indian gentlemen as sergeants—although I do not agree with him in this description of his——

Mr. H. BARTON: May I rise to a point of order? Are not we gentlemen?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Please try to avoid this question, Mr. Banerjee; you need not pursue the matter further.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Because there are a certain number of Anglo-Indians in the police service their interests are to be protected! It matters not whether the police officers we employ are European, Anglo-Indian or Indian, we want them to realise and appreciate the fact that they are not the masters of the people but their servants. We find in the country a pampered police service—a police service pampered by the Government although it does not at all enjoy the confidence of the people.

Let us come to the question of the European and Anglo-Indian sergeants. I wish to site one instance of their doings at all events as one of my reasons for refusing this grant. We all remember how nearly a couple of years ago the Civil Guards known in some quarters by another name joined the sergeants, hammered the people of Entally and mercilessly killed one or two, when they were required to give protection to the people of the locality. (A VOICE: They were acquitted.) Yes, the men were acquitted and acquitted—I do not hesitate to say—on a failure to appreciate the testimony adduced in the case.

Dr. H. W. B. MORENO: Is the hon'ble member in order in making such a statement, Sir?

Mr. PRESIDENT: You are a little carried away, Mr. Banerjee. I can understand the warmth of your feeling in a matter which affected your constituency but please do not be carried away by it.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: The case is not *sub judice*, Sir, and when a case has been tried in a Court of law and decision has been arrived at, I think the public or a member of the public are entitled to criticise that decision.

Mr. PRESIDENT: No, Mr. Banerjee. When a man has been tried and acquitted under proper form of law and by a competent Court of Justice, I think it is the duty of every member of the public to accept that verdict.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Unless I am out of order, Sir, with due deference to the Chair I say this that I do not accept the verdict as just. That is my opinion and the opinion of my countrymen, although the opinion of Europeans may be the reverse. Though the

jury consisted of a majority of Indians I say, Sir, that the jury gave a perverse verdict.

Mr. H. BARTON: But they were Indians.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: There are perverse Indians just as there are just Europeans and Anglo-Indians. In view of what I have stated I exhort my friends, whether belonging to the Independent or the Swaraj party—in fact all who are friends of India, to vote against this demand.

Dr. H. W. B. MORENO: On a point of personal explanation, was the last speaker in order in doubting that the Anglo-Indian sergeant is a gentleman?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am not going to allow you to re-open that matter.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ also spoke in Bengali the translation of which is as follows:—

Much has been said by the previous speakers on this motion so I do not like to go over the same ground again. Personally speaking I do not see there is any marked difference between European sergeants and the Indian constables. Hence there cannot be any justification for such an increase in the European sergenats' pay. It is for this reason that the Government are losing the confidence of the people.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: With regard to the speech of Mr. Nisith Chandra Sen I should like to point out that it does not make the slightest difference the argument I adduce when introducing this budget whether Mr. C. R. Das or Mr. M. N. Roy originated the idea. It is entirely immaterial as to whose idea it is.

As regards Mr. A. C. Banerjee's speech I decline to accept the view he takes of the Entally occurrence.

For the rest I am sure the mover will pardon me if in view of the statement he made at the beginning of the budget debate and of the fact of the absence on their side of any intention of basing their vote on the budget as a whole on reasonable grounds I decline to be drawn into a discussion which, I think the House will agree with me, will be futile.

The motion being put a division was taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Nemoo Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rab.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohan.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Dee Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Daud, Mr. M.
Dey, Babu Sereda Prasad.

Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haldar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Haque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jaardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilharan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Ray, Mr. Satcowripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinirajan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Hussyn Shaheed.
Taraifdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prasad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Ray, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 61 and the Noes 61, the Hon'ble the President gave his casting vote against the motion.

The motion was therefore lost.

The following motions were then called but not moved:—

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 2,62,320 under "Detailed Account No. 26A.—Presidency Police—Calcutta Police for pay of sergeants' be reduced by Rs. 1,30,000."

Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: "That the demand for Rs. 3,967 under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—Calcutta Police for temporary force,' be refused."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 16,84,611 for pay of establishment under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—Calcutta Police,' be reduced by Rs. 2,84,611."

Babu MONMOHAN NEOGI: "That the demand of Rs. 85,000 for travelling allowance under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—Calcutta Police,' be reduced by Rs. 21,250."

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 60,920 under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—Calcutta Police—House-rent and other allowances,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 60,920 for house-rent and other allowances under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—Calcutta Police,' be reduced by Rs. 30,460."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 1,70,920 for allowances, honoraria, etc., under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—Calcutta Police,' be reduced by Rs. 1,10,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,65,000 for clothing charges (Supplies and Services) under the head '26A.—Presidency Police,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: I move that the demand for Rs. 46,000 under the head "26A.—Presidency Police—Calcutta Police—for the purchase and maintenance of horses and their equipment" be refused.

This cut refers to only a small portion of the huge demand, namely, about Rs. 1,50,000, required for the maintenance of a magnificent branch of the Calcutta police which, in this hall, was once characterised as an equestrian appendage to the Calcutta police force. In plain language, it means the Calcutta mounted police. It now consists of about 60 horsemen both Indian and European. We do not know what their duties are, but they may be seen on the Strand Road near about the Eden Gardens in the evenings taking exercise on their stately horses and sometimes galloping after a motor car which might have met with the misfortune of having one of its electric bulbs damaged. Prior to 1922, we had a small section of the mounted police in Calcutta consisting of about 18 sowars. Their services were utilised in controlling big crowds at the football matches and the race-course. In December, 1921, when despite their prohibition, we were having innumerable non-co-operation meetings in Calcutta, the Hon'ble Sir Henry Wheeler, the

then Member in Charge, suddenly hit upon the idea of dispensing those meetings with the help of mounted policemen. Only 18 sowars, of whom the force then consisted, were found too small to cope with the new occupation which was found for them. He at once brought a supplementary demand before the Council to give about 40 more men and horses as a temporary measure. This was granted in view of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. But in March, 1920, during the discussion of the annual budget when a demand was made to make this addition to the force of the mounted police on a permanent basis, we refused the demand, though by a majority, of one vote. Subsequently, in July, 1922, after a lecture from His Excellency, the official ingenuity made us eat the humble pie, and good boys as we were in those days we passed the grant.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Why in those days, Kumar Sahib?

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: Thank you very much, Sir, for the compliment.

Our attempt again to reduce the grant in 1923 also failed. But the things have changed no doubt in the present Council, and as we have many more Independent members in this Council this time, I sincerely hope that the House will cut down the demand again and vindicate the honour of the House. This will not only save the country of a large sum of money in recurring expenses but will also give us an immediate relief to the extent of Rs. 2,50,000 required for the new stables at Fenwick Bazar. In the nature of the traffic in Calcutta, the mounted police is not essentially necessary for the safety of the town. It may be of some service during the football season to keep the large crowds under control, but certainly that does not justify a recurring expenditure of Rs. 1,50,000 annually from our general revenues. What I therefore suggest is that on such occassions if it be found absolutely necessary, the services may be utilised of His Excellency's Bodyguard who have practically no work to do on 363 out of 365 days in a year. This will, I am sure, give them some work as well as a little healthy exercise.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: The same remarks I have made on a previous occasion apply to this motion also and even the extraordinarily inaccurate speech of the mover will not tempt me to expose the inaccuracies.

The motion was then put and a division claimed and called.

Mr. C. R. DAS: As I understand that some Muhammadan members are now saying their prayers could you kindly have the division taken 2 or 3 minutes later?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am afraid I cannot postpone the division as it has been claimed and called. The Council adjourns for 15 minutes every

day at sunset for the special purpose of permitting Muhammadan members to say their prayers. I am quite willing to follow the practice of having an adjournment at sunset, but I cannot be expected to adjourn the Council constantly for any such purpose, especially when a division has been claimed and called.

Several Muhammadan members stood up and said: We have got two terms of prayers in the afternoon, viz., *Asar* and *Makrab* and this is the time for *Asar* prayer.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order. I cannot have several members speaking at a time. Maulvi Wahed Hossain, have you anything to say?

Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: I wish to say that we have got two terms for prayers, viz., *Asar* and *Makrab;* and this is exactly the time for *Asar* prayers. We want therefore 5 minutes time to enable us to say our prayers.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I think that this is the first time that this objection has been made. I cannot have an adjournment more than once. Supposing some Hindu or European members were to ask for an adjournment, I could not possibly allow it.

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: I beg to point out one thing and that is that the members who are now saying their prayers may be permitted to vote although they are not in the Chamber.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I cannot allow that.

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: Then I do not want a division.

Mr. PRESIDENT: As you have claimed a division it must be taken.

The division was then taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Nil.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Ali, Mr. Altaf.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Garey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.

Haq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. G.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rose, Mr. G. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Swarajist and Independent members abstained from voting. As the other members were about to pass out into the "No" lobby, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq Chaudhury shouted: "Bravo, Muhammadan Ministers! Bravo, Muhammadan Members!"

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order. Maulvi Saheb, you must learn how to control yourself.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I know how to do that.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order.

The Ayes being nil and the Noes 59, the motion was lost.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order. I have had inquiries made and found that only one member was upstairs in the prayer room.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: Let it be: the number does not matter in the least.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HUQ moved that the demand of Rs. 1,09,000 under the head "26A.—Presidency Police—Contract Contingencies," be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

He delivered a speech in Bengali in support of his motion.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I have nothing to say in reply.

The motion was then put and a division claimed.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I shall call the division in the Chamber. Will those members who are in favour of the motion rise in their places?

As more than 10 members rose in their places, Mr. President direct the division to be taken through the lobbies.

Maulvi Mr. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: Hear, hear.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order. No demonstration should take place when the division is being taken.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: May I inquire what is the position if a member calls for a division and then does not vote?

Mr. PRESIDENT: There is nothing which can prevent a member remaining in his seat after calling for a division, but it certainly evinces a lack of responsibility to call for a division and to vote in the Chamber and then not to vote when the division is being taken through the lobbies.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Should a member be hanged, drawn and quartered if he asks for a division and then does not vote?

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is not a point of order.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: Does it come under your duties as President, or is there any rule which entitles you, when giving your ruling, to say that a member has shown an *utter* lack of responsibility?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Sen Gupta, when you quote me, I hope you will be good enough to quote the exact words that I used.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: I think, Sir, you said "utter lack of responsibility."

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Sen Gupta, into the words you used just now, you introduced an adjective, namely, the word "utter" before the words "lack of responsibility."

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: Apart from that, may I know, Sir, whether the Chairman, besides deciding a point of order, has also to give an opinion as to the lack of responsibility on the part of a member?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am perfectly entitled to give the opinion that I did.

A division was then taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Hajji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.

Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. H.
Morone, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 2 and the Noes 53, the motion was lost.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I may inform Mr. Sen Gupta that in the House of Commons, two members are obliged to vote, because two tellers are called and these two tellers have to vote; one of the tellers is usually the member who challenges the division.

Mr. C. R. DAS: May I know if the whole procedure of the House of Commons is applicable to this Council?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Certainly not.

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: Before passing your opinion as to whether I showed any lack of responsibility, I respectfully request that you will hear what I have to say. The reason why after I demanded a division I did not vote is that I did so on principle, as some Muhammadan members were then saying their prayers. I believe the British Government have accepted the freedom of religious practices, and as true Muhammadans are law-abiding they are also loyal to God. It is strictly enjoined on every Muhammadan to say his prayers at certain times and I expect that my Muhammadan brethren will be allowed to say their prayers in proper time. On that principle, therefore, I did not vote. Otherwise I would have been very glad to vote.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I quite understand your position and accept what you say. I must now make clear once for all my position with regard to this matter about prayers. My predecessor in the office of President was an orthodox Muhammadan gentleman. It was through his instrumentality that the adjournment for 15 minutes takes place every evening at sundown in order to enable Moslem members to say their evening prayers. During the whole time the Nawab Sahib was in the Chair not one Muhammadan member even raised the question of having a further adjournment. When I succeeded to the Chair, I carried out the system of adjournment introduced by the Nawab Sahib, and from the moment the system was introduced up to the present no question has been raised of having a further adjournment. I desire further to say that I made inquiries and found that one and only one Muhammadan member was upstairs in the prayer room.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ addressed the Council in Bengali about the adjournment for prayer.

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is a very long speech, Shah Sahib. However, I will ask the Deputy President to make a statement; he is a Muhammadan and is entitled to answer you.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Major Hassan Suhrawardy): I have only just arrived, but I gather that there is a demand for the adjournment of the House for the *Asar* prayer.

Mr. C. R. DAS: There is no demand for adjournment.

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: We wanted that the members who are at prayer might be permitted to vote without being in the Chamber.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You requested me to adjourn taking the division. That is an adjournment of the business of the House.

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: Those persons who are outside the Chamber offering their prayers should be allowed to vote after finishing their prayers; that was the alternative suggestion.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: A similar request was made to me a few days ago when I was in the Chair. I did not make a statement to the members of the House then; I shall make a statement now. The time of the *Asar* prayer extends from 4 o'clock to sundown and any member who wishes to say his prayers can easily leave the House for that purpose. There is no prohibition on the part of the Council authorities in this direction, but for the whole business of the House to be adjourned and a division held up several times during the course of the day is not possible. We have an adjournment of the House for prayers, as everyone knows, and there is enough time allowed then for the Muhammadan members to say their *Maghrab* prayer. The time occupied by the *Asar* prayer is very short, as I told one or two members on the last occasion, and I do not think that the business of the House should be brought to a standstill unless all the Muslim members wish to say their prayers in a body. People who are very keen about saying their prayers and are also equally keen about worldly affairs, remind me of the words of Mowlana Rumi—*Ham Khoda Khahi-o-Ham Duñia-i-Doon. In Khayal ast-o-Mohal ast-o-Janun*—"You want God and pursue the knowledge of truth: you also run after this mean and wicked world. It is an impossibility. It is a delusion and madness." I think my friend the Shah Sahib will agree with me.

Mr. C. R. DAS: May I make a statement?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Yes, Mr. Das.

Mr. C. R. DAS: I think there is some misapprehension with regard to the question raised. It is not that we wanted an interval. It so happens that at a particular hour a Muhammadan member is entitled

to offer his prayers; it is his bounden duty to say his prayer. If just before a division a Muhammadan member sits down to say his prayers, and if a division is called for at that moment, is it a very unreasonable request to make to the President of the House that the taking of votes should be carried on in such a manner that it might not interfere with the religious practices of Muhammadans, that he may not suffer by reason of his being at prayer in any way? That is the whole question; it is not a question of interval or adjournment; it is just as if a man cannot go through the "Aye" or "No" lobby, and his vote is taken in the Chamber. When a member is engaged in prayer, there ought to be some power in the President to arrange matters in such a way that his vote may be taken. We are not following the procedure of the House of Commons in every respect, but there is such a thing as commonsense and reason, and I do protest most emphatically against the disability created by this procedure against the Muhammadans saying their prayers according to their religion.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: If you will permit me to say a few words, I may mention that as has been pointed out by Major Suhrawardy, the time for the *Asar* prayer at the present season of the year extends from 4 to 6 o'clock, and within these two hours we can go and offer our prayers which takes about 5 minutes. In this particular case, I thought this was an opportune time for me to go and say my prayers; I went and about half a dozen of my friends followed me. I had just finished, when I heard the division bell ringing and I ran into the Chamber, but my friends who had already begun to say their prayers could not leave. I think that in this particular case it is rather hard on the members of the House who were already saying their prayers, that they should be shut out from the privilege of voting. It is very difficult when many divisions are taken in the course of an hour for a member to anticipate when a division will be taken and those of my friends who went to say their prayers had no indication that a division would be called at that time. However, I appeal to all my friends to forget this unfortunate incident that has happened, because I understand there was no intention on the part of the President or anyone else to deprive any member of the privilege of his vote. The less said about this unfortunate incident, the better.

Mr. PRESIDENT: We now have it that the period for saying the *Asar* prayer extends from 4 to 6 o'clock; it will therefore be obvious that it may very well happen that we shall have a constant flow of Muhammadan members saying their prayers from 4 to 6 o'clock. I cannot be expected to know when a division is called that there are Muhammadan members saying their prayers. It is not possible for me to know this; and I cannot hold a division up on the mere chance that some of the Muhammadan members are saying their prayers. I think it must be plain to the Council, if I am asked to hold up a division,

that that is equivalent to adjourning the business of the Council. However, if members when calling a division will be good enough to satisfy themselves that there are no Muhammadan members in the prayer room—I cannot be expected to know this— it will help a great deal, because once I have begun to take a division, I cannot adjourn it or postpone it. The obvious way is for the debate to be continued a little longer by having a speaker or speakers ready so that when the division is called it can be taken when nobody is saying his prayers.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: It was brought to the notice of the President that a member was saying his prayers. This sort of thing has not taken place on several occasions during the past two or three months. Since I am here, I think only on one or two occasions such a thing has happened and it was brought to the notice of the President. As in the case of Umesh Babu, I think it would be better if the President would allow the member who may at the time of the divison be offering his prayers to have his vote recorded on his return to the Chamber.

Mr. PRESIDENT: There is a great difference between the two cases. Umesh Babu is sitting in the House and his vote is taken here, but when a member is outside the Chamber, it is not possible to have his vote recorded; I cannot possibly agree to that. Members must be in the House when a division is taken. I must be perfectly sure that the member whose vote is taken has gone through the lobby.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 3,91,000 for rents, rates and taxes—contingencies under the head '26A.—Presidency Police' be reduced by Rs. 91,000."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: I move that the demand for Rs. 3,91,000 under the head "26A.—Presidency Police—Calcutta Police—Rents, Rates and Taxes" be reduced by Rs. 1,000.

It will be apparent, Sir, from the amount of the cut proposed by my amendment that it is not my intention to press this amendment to a division and create further difficulties in the Council. My intention is to bring to the notice of the House the huge sum that we annually pay as house rents for the accommodation of the police in Calcutta. Besides these huge recurring grants, every year we spend something like 7 or 8 lakhs of rupees, an amount which, though of a non-recurring character, has become an annual demand, as every year we find some building or other being put up as being of immediate necessity for which funds must be found. Thus we spend about 12 lakhs a year on building activities in the Police Department from our current revenue. My suggestion in this connection is that instead of spending such big sums from our revenues, we should go in for

a loan for the purpose of police buildings in Calcutta for which a suitable sinking fund can be found from a portion of the sum which we annually spend at present on police buildings under construction and house rents.

[At this stage the Hon'ble the President left the Chamber, and the Deputy President took the Chair.]

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: The Kumar Sahib and the Retrenchment Committee are perfectly correct that our rent bills are extravagant and the only way of reducing them is to build houses of our own and thereby cutting down rents. I shall therefore claim the Kumar Sahib's support when I introduce in this Council proposals to provide funds for the construction of police buildings in Calcutta.

The motion was then, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu JATINDRA NATH BASU: "That the demand for Rs. 26,61,000 under the head '26A.—Presidency—Total Calcutta Police,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 17,100 for pay of Sergeants—River Police—under the head '26A.—Presidency Police,' be reduced by Rs. 8,580."

Babu JATINDRA NATH BASU: "That the demand for Rs. 74,670 under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—River Police,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu JATINDRA NATH BASU: "That the demand for Rs. 32,000 under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—Dock Police,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu MONMOHAN NEOGI: "That the demand of Rs. 2,400 for travelling allowance under the head '26A.—Presidency Police—Hospital Charges,' be reduced by Rs. 600."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand for Rs. 9,75,920 under the head '26A. Presidency Police for Allowances, honoraria contingencies, etc.,' be reduced by Rs. 1,50,000."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 31,65,100 under the head '26A.—Presidency Police,' be reduced by Rs. 40,300."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR asked in Bengali for permission to address the Council in Bengali.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Hemanta Babu, you are not entitled to speak in Bengali; you must speak in English. You are not one of those whose name is on the list as being permitted to speak in Bengali.

[Continuing in Bengali Babu Hemanta Kumar Sarkar asked what his punishment would be if he addressed the House in Bengali.]

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Then you will have to sit down.

The member then resumed his seat.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 25,800 under the head "26B.—Superintendence—Inspector-General and Deputy Inspector-General" be refused.

He addressed the Council in Bengali.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: Sir, this particular provision is with regard to the pay of the Deputy Inspector-General who happened to be recruited in India. I hope the Shah Sahib will withdraw his motion.

The motion was, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Babu MANMOHAN NEOGI: "That the demand of Rs. 15,000 for training allowance under the head '26B.—Superintendence' be reduced by Rs. 3,750."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: I move that the demand of Rs. 1,97,500 under "Detailed Account No. 26B.—Superintendence" be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000.

The total cost under this head comes up to the huge figure of Rs. 3,83,000, nearly 4 lakhs of rupees, and this sum is utilised in paying the salaries of one Inspector-General, five Deputy Inspectors-General, two other gazetted officers, besides the Registrar, clerks and servants, and there is also a steam-launch establishment and there are travelling allowance and hill allowances and various other allowances. The question now is "Do we get good return for this amount?" It seems to me that the principle adopted in the Police Department is too much of superintendence and too little of actual work. While there are these highly-paid officers seeing through files, disposing of case after case in their office room, crime goes on undetected in the country. The time has come when such a state of things should be put a stop to, and the request which I make is a very modest one. I want a cut of one lakh of rupees out of a demand of 2 lakhs, and I hope the Council will carry this motion.

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: I beg to support the motion moved by Dr. Pramathanath Banerjea. The Retrenchment Committee recommended that under the head "26.—Police" there should be a cut to the extent of about a lakh of rupees so far as the pay of the Deputy Inspectors-General and Assistant Inspectors-General is concerned. But as these items are placed beyond the vote of this Council

and yet we cannot allow such an extravagance to go on, I also propose to reduce the demand under the head "26B.—Superintendence" by a lakh of rupees, that is to that extent to which the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee goes. That is the only point I wish to add in supporting the motion of Dr. Banerjea.

Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY: I beg to support the motion. It has been found in the Police Department, as also in all other departments of Government, that we have more inspection than actual work. Actually the Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors are the officers whose services are requisitioned by the people and who actually render useful service to the people in their requirements. But we find that there are more of expenses for Superintendents, Deputy Inspectors-General and Inspector-General and all those officers who are practically the ornamental heads of the department without doing much useful work that is expected of them. So I hope that this motion will be carried by the House, as we find that the Police Department is a top-heavy department and it is in this Department that the services of the junior officers are the services which are really needed and welcomed by the people. I therefore whole-heartedly support this motion.

Babu JOGINDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVORTI: I support the motion which has been moved just now, and in doing so I would draw the attention of the members of this House to a point at page 93 of the budget. What I desire to point out is this: this is an item on Superintendence and the amount of the grant which is asked for is Rs. 1,97,500; that is only the voted portion of it. Besides this, there is another portion under "Superintendence" and that is the non-voted portion which amounts to Rs. 1,85,000. Therefore, in considering the question of the amount that is being demanded from this Council of a grant of Rs. 1,97,000, and also at the same time the question as to whether the motion for reduction is one which should be accepted or not, the House will be pleased to remember what the total amount that is being spent on the head "Superintendence" is, that is, nearly 4 lakhs of rupees. Now, Sir, on a point like this one cannot forget the fact which has been emphasised year after year in this Council as well as outside, namely, the tendency of an enormous increase in police expenditure in this country. As one of our friends just now remarked, one feels inclined to question what is the return that we get from this enormous increase in police expenditure. So far as the budget is concerned, I do not know whether there will be any practical result by our offering any obstruction to the passing of any particular item, particularly in this Police budget, because so far as we have seen the tendency in the last Council and in the present Council, there is hardly any chance of our advice being accepted by those who are responsible for the police administration. Certainly nobody in this House can possibly question the responsibility of the

Government so far as the maintenance of law and order is concerned, but at the same time one naturally feels inclined to know as to how this law and order is being maintained and at what cost to the people who pay taxes and supply the revenue for the maintenance of the administration of the country. Roughly speaking, so far as I can make out there is under the head "Police" a voted amount of Rs. 1,70,47,000 and the non-voted portion comes to Rs. 14,21,000, that is to say Rs. 1,84,68,000 is the total under the head "Police." Before the Council can be asked to pass their vote on the police grant, one would naturally stop to inquire as to whether it would be just and proper for the members of this House to vote for the whole amount that is asked for merely because the plea is put forward that the maintenance of law and order requires such an extraordinary expenditure under this head. That is a point which we cannot forget, and apart from the question as to whether a section of the members of this House feels inclined to go on with the policy of obstruction, when you come really to consider the question on its merits, these are the points which stand prominently out, the points which cannot be left out in considering any question regarding the police expenditure. Therefore in view of all these circumstances, I do hope that the Council will consider whether the grant which is being asked for should be passed or not. The motion that has been brought forward is really to my mind a very moderate one, viz., that out of the total demand of Rs. 1,97,500 under the head "Superintendence," curtailment is demanded to the extent of one lakh of rupees only. I do not think I need take up any more time of the Council but I support this motion whole-heartedly and I hope the members of this House will carry this motion.

Babu ANILBARAN RAY: Mr. President, it has been my singular fortune or rather misfortune that whenever I have spoken in this House, there is somebody who makes use of my speech or any words that I may use to have a fling at my party: so I have the greatest hesitation in speaking anything here, but as the subject before us is of the gravest importance, I think I cannot possibly remain silent, but I shall be very careful in my expression.

Sir, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson has spoken to us about the Bolshevik bogey, and the Indians, the majority of our people, I may assure you, are afraid of Bolshevism, but, Sir, Bolshevists are far away from us and their menace is not real, but the menace of the police is very near us. As we stand out for liberty we find that this police system which we are asked to maintain, which we are asked to find funds for—this police system, this police administration, has been a great menace to our liberty, and if you will allow me a few words, Sir, I will explain to you what I mean. Now, Sir, whenever we make any attempt to arouse the national sentiment or the patriotic feelings in the country, whenever we try to make any organisation to serve the people of our land, we always find the police very near us, but when we are robbed by robbers,

when we are murdered, when the purity of our sisters and mothers has been tampered with, we do not find the police very near us. I do not say that the police are not vigilant—I do not say that the police force in India are particularly inefficient—I do not like to bring any specific charge of corruption against the police as a whole, but my complaint is that they are more mindful about the maintenance of law and order than about the safety of the people. With the Government under which we live, of course, " the safety of the Republic " is the first law, we understand that. What we object to is the use which is made of the police and the reason is this. The police are not at all responsible to the people. They know that if they serve the interest of the bureaucracy and if they serve the interest of law and order, whether negligence they may show in other directions will be forgiven and they will be supported—(A VOICE: Promoted")—and my friend says promoted. But their negligence in other directions or even their misconduct are not considered by the bureaucracy sufficient for holding a decent inquiry. This system, this attitude of Government causes great corruption in the police and that is to which we object and we should not be a party in supporting such a police who on account of the existing system degenerate themselves and at the same time become a menace to the country. It is not only the people who suffer, but I may tell you that the persons who join the police force have also to suffer from the system under which they work. The police are trained in such a manner that the noble sentiments are rooted out from them. How hard hearted they are, how they do not respond to the ordinary sentiments of the humanity—we have had ample proof of these in the days of the non-co-operation movement. We have seen how the police carry out repression without the slightest hesitation against non-violent people, and this would not have been possible but for the special training they had in the hands of their masters. Sir, do you ask us to support this system to go on? I do not like to take much time of this House in dealing with this matter about which the feeling in this country is very keen. You say the police are for the safety of the people, but I can tell you that the people are not fond of the police. They know that the police are to prevent dacoities, murders and any breach of peace and still why are they so afraid of the police? You do not know how the villagers live in a reign of terror. I admit that the police has improved to a certain extent in recent years, but the improvement has been on the other side; but as regards our national demand we find there has been no improvement. If you form any organisation, if you try to speak freely, if you try to serve your country honestly, you will always be the object of attention of the police. I say he is a great menace. If you try to check the national aspirations of the people by this artificial means of increasing the expenditure on police I will say that is not the proper remedy—make the police responsible to the people, make the police feel that the people are their masters, they have to serve the people and not the bureaucracy. The other day when I spoke about the

artificial means of thwarting the natural desire of the people for swaraj or independence some members of this House, I find, have interpreted my speech as a threat as if I threatened the Government and the British people and the officials that if you do not submit to our wishes you will have to pay for it and that there will be violence in the country. But, Sir, my intention was far from that. I would like to explain that if there be an outbreak of violence in the country who would be the worst sufferers—the people would be the worst sufferers. Don't we know about the condition in Ireland? Don't we know the reprisals taken by the police there? If there is one murder by some misguided person we know the sort of reprisal that follow. So, I say in the case of any outbreak, we, the people, would be the worst sufferers. According to the injunctions of Mahatma Gandhi, we always try to preserve non-violence, but this non-violence will not be preserved by encouraging the police in all sorts of repression. And when we find that even in the case of misconduct on their part, they are supported, encouraged and pampered, we do not think that that is the proper way of preventing violence. Our point of view is that the discontent which prevails is due to economic conditions as well as to other reasons one of which is the desire for liberty that has grown in the people's mind. These things taken together form the real danger. The Government should guide this desire for liberty into the proper channel, and if it can do this, it will be a wonder in history. The Government has got that chance before it to-day, and in this matter it will get our heartiest co-operation.

[At this stage the Hon'ble the President returned to the Chair.]

So when we say that by the present methods you will not be able to meet the violence on the part of the people, we do not mean that as a threat: that is only a sort of prayer. I conclude by saying that the real way of preventing any outburst or any violence in the country is to guide the natural aspirations of the people into proper channels and to let them have swaraj, their birth right, as soon as possible. The best way is to take into confidence the leaders of the people and not to flout their advice.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: In spite of the charge that has been levelled at us that we are not prepared to go into the merits of the subject-matter under discussion, I can assure the Hon'ble Member in charge that I have made patient inquiries so far as figures go and so far as information could be had from the publications. I tried to find out on what principle the items under this head have been put forward. For instance, I find under the first heading there is the voted charge of Rs. 25,800. The next under travelling allowance I find an item of Rs. 15,000. I find the figure is the same as in the budget estimate of 1923-24. I do not know what the revised estimate will be—probably the figures are not available. The item on which I want information is in regard to house rent and other allowances. I find in 1922-23 the

amount of voted house rent and other allowances was Rs. 16,486 and the non-voted figure was Rs. 700. This year I find that the figures are Rs. 3,600 and Rs. 8,400, respectively. What I should like to know is whether there is any principle which guides the Government with regard to allowing allowances and house rent to the members of the police force, who, as far as I know, live in houses rented by Government for which I find Rs. 5,140 has been provided, and secondly, why a portion of these allowances, the major portion of these allowances for the next year has been put under the non-voted head as against the similar figure under the voted head. I have tried to calculate by looking at the Civil List and the amount of allowances supposed to be drawn by individual officers as mentioned in the Civil List, but the more I tried to calculate the more my effort became puzzle. I multiplied, subtracted and added but without any avail and I hope the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson will kindly enlighten the members of the House with regard to these figures.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I hasten to give the information which the last speaker has asked for so far as I could understand him. I would have been glad to give him the information if he had asked for it before. I have already explained that the sum of Rs. 25,800 represents the pay of the Deputy Inspector-General who happened to be recruited originally in India. Therefore under the existing rules, this amount comes under voted. The travelling allowance of Rs. 15,000 is the travelling allowance of the Inspector-General and the 5 Deputy Inspectors-General of this Province. Travelling allowance is purely a guess, and, as has been explained to the Council before, during the current year we cut down touring very considerably, in order to make as much saving as possible under this head. As regards house rent and other allowances, there are various officers who are entitled to fixed house rent allowances. The question of division between voted and non-voted is entirely according to the criterion laid down, viz., whether the actual holder was recruited in India or not.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: May I ask a question? Am I to understand that in the year 1922-23 the proportion of European recruited officers to Indian officers happened to be as 4 to 1 or 5 to 1 as against the proportion between European and Indian officers next year which will be 1 to 2. I find Rs. 16,486 has been put down as voted for 1922-23. Am I to understand that the large bulk of Inspector-General and Deputy Inspectors-General were recruited in India in that year against this year?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: No, Sir, there is no question here of Europeans or Indians. The only question is whether these officers were recruited in India or recruited by the Secretary of State in England. If they are recruited in England their pay and allowances are non-voted and recruited in India, whether European or Indian, under the present practice their pay and allowances are voted.

Sir, I entirely agree with Babu Jogendra Chandra Chakravorti that before the Council vote the demand, they are entitled to raise questions upon it, and I think those members who were in the last Council would do me the justice to say that I have always endeavoured to explain any item in the budget either before the budget comes on or during the budget discussion. But when, Sir, it is the intention of the members of the House who raise these questions to throw out the whole police budget which is now before us, they will surely excuse us if we decline to take up the time of the House in discussing portions of the budget which will disappear along with the whole budget. If they want the whole police force to be done away with, which I understand is their present attitude, then I do not think that it will be respectful to the House to take up its time in discussing a portion of the force which they propose subsequently to throw out *en bloc*.

With regard to Babu Anilbaran Ray's speech, it was on more general lines, but, Sir, I am in entire agreement with him that the police force is not a remedy for unemployment or for discontent: it is purely a palliative as long as discontent or unemployment or so forth goes on. But if he or anybody else could put forward a scheme, for removing middle class unemplyment in Bengal, he would deserve the thanks not only of Government but of the whole country, and I am perfectly certain that he will have the full co-operation of Government in carrying it out.

The motion was then put and a division claimed.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Before the division actually takes place, I should like to know if there is any member in the prayer hall.

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: A change of heart.

Mr. PRESIDENT: No change of heart, Kumar Sahib. I simply take hon'ble members as they are. I propose to stand five minutes so that you or anybody else in the House may make inquiries and give a guarantee that there is nobody at prayer. I must also point out that every minute thus lost will be taken away from the time allotted for the discussion of this head of the budget.

The division was then taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zahoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Baksh, Maulvi Kader.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. O. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Daud, Mr. M.
Dey, Babu Beroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.

Haldar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Afiab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Rahikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Ray, Mr. D. N.
Ray, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinirnjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Taraidar, Maulvi Rajib Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dess, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prasad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur at Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Prevash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Ray, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 61 and the Noes 59, the motion was carried.

The following motions were not taken up as they were covered by the decision on the previous motion:—

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 1,97,500 under the head '26B.—Superintendence' be reduced by Rs. 30,000."

Babu JATINDRA NATH BASU: "That the demand for Rs. 1,97,000 under the head '26B.—Superintendence' be reduced by Re. 1."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 1,55,200 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—Superintendent' be refused.

He addressed the Council in Bengali.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I think that the pay which the Shah Sahib wishes to cut is that of the new Indian Assistant Superintendents appointed in India. I have nothing further to say.

The motion being put a division was taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayabuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyad Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Daud, Mr. M.
Dey, Babu Bereda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hequa, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Sateowripati.
Sarkar, Babu Nemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Gedfroy, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.

Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abdur.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Amyers.

The Ayes being 61 and the Noes 58, the motion was carried.

[Here the Council adjourned for 15 minutes.]

[After the adjournment.]

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 10,800 under the head "26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—Assistant Superintendents" be refused.

He addressed the Council in Bengali.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I beg to oppose it. I confess I thought we were voting on it last time as I think he talked a good deal about Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents.

The motion being put a division was taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahmad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Daud, Mr. M.
Dey, Babu Beroda Presad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammed, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Naegi, Babu Manmohen.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Ray, Mr. Sateowripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Taraifdar, Maulvi Rajo Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dosa, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prasad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Moreno, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.

The Ayes being 61 and the Noes 58, the motion was carried.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,64,000 for pay of Deputy Superintendents under the head '26C.—District Executive Force' be reduced by Rs. 25,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 1,64,000 under the head "26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—Pay of Officers—Deputy Superintendents" be reduced by Rs. 24,000.

He addressed the Council in Bengali.

The motion being put a division was taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Narendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Daud, Mr. M.
Dey, Babu Bereda Prasad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haldar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedul.

Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jaardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Sasar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Nengi, Babu Manmohan.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Ray, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Sateswripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinaranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Sirendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Husayn Shaheed
Taraidar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D J.
Cooper, Mr. C. G.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. G. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faraqui, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. G.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Rose, Mr. G. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Amyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 60 and the Noes 59, the motion was carried.

The following motions were called but not moved :—

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 3,30,000 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—Salaries' be reduced by Rs. 1,90,000."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand for Rs. 3,30,000 for pay of officers under the head '26C.—District Executive Force' be reduced by Rs. 1,10,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 53,880 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—Pay of Establishment—European Constables' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I move that the demand for Rs. 53,880 for pay of European constables under the head "26C.—District Executive Force," be reduced by Rs. 26,940.

I find from the White Book that the pay of these European constables is Rs. 135—175. I also find that a Sub-Inspector's pay is Rs. 80—130. While the Sub-Inspector is to begin from Rs. 80 the European constable begins on Rs. 135. Assistant Sub-Inspectors, of course they are Indians, begin from Rs. 25 whereas the European constables begin from Rs. 135. As regards Indian constables they begin on Rs. 16 rising up to Rs. 20. These figures speak for themselves. I feel inclined to say that all this is simply outrageous. It is difficult to understand why a constable merely because he happens to be a European draws Rs. 135—175 whereas the maximum pay of a Sub-Inspector is only 130. I wonder if the authorities seriously and sincerely believe that the work which is done by these European constables cannot be done by the Indian constables? In any case the only moral of this is this: here in India it is a disqualification to be an Indian. I have, however, as will appear from the terms of the amendment, not suggested that the whole thing should be refused. I have only said that the amount be reduced by half. That is all my contention and if that is adopted the result will be that the pay of a European constable will be about Rs. 70, that is equal to the pay of a Sub-Inspector even after this proposed reduction. I, therefore, think that unless blood is thicker than water the European members will accept this amendment.

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: I beg to support the motion and I do so on two grounds. In the first place I support it on the ground of economy. Sir, the European constable costs us ten times as much as an Indian constable. In these days when we hear so much about equality, is it right that the European constable should take ten times the pay of an Indian constable?

In the second place I support the motion on the ground that the European constables not only do not do much work but their behaviour is very rude and they are used in oppressing the people. I hope therefore the Council will carry this motion.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: I also support the motion, simply on the ground that at page 94 of the budget I find that Rs. 53,880 is the pay of 33 European constables. Sir, there are 26 districts in Bengal and I do not see why there should be 33 European constables in Bengal costing us Rs. 33,880 annually.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I can hardly acquit the mover of the motion of the desire to pull the leg of this House. Dr. Pramathanath Banerjea has said he knows all about these European constables—they are used for oppressing the people. Therefore, he certainly can be acquitted of the desire to pull the leg of the House. The hon'ble mover recently, quite a short time ago, asked me where

these men were employed and who they were and I gave him the information that they were sergeants employed in the Bengal mufassal police and I certainly thought he fully understood. Now when he tells the House that the European constables do the same work as the Indian constables do, I think he is trying to——

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: On a personal explanation. I never suggested that they do the same work. I said that the work that is entrusted to these people can certainly be done by Indian constables.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: That certainly means that a portion of their work anyhow can be done by ordinary Indian constables.

Well, Sir, in spite of what I have frequently said in regard to answering individual items in this budget by sympathy with the ignorance of a certain part of this House induces me to try to enlighten them on the subject of European constables. I admit it is a misnomer like many of these things, but it has got into the budget and sticks there and no one understands what it means.

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: Why not remove it?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: There are many things that are very difficult to remove in India. The European constable is the counterpart of the European sergeant in the Calcutta police. He is employed in the mufassal on certain duties for which he is particularly adapted. I do not know why it was said that it was a curious thing that for 26 districts there were 33 European constables. The European constable is not there to run the whole district. He is a man who has served his time in the army and has come out with a first class educational certificate and with the rank of a non-commissioned officer. He is recruited for certain definite work the main portion of which is drilling the armed guards in the districts. I have a list here of how they are employed. Four of them are employed in the 24-Parganas, two in Burdwan, two in Hughli, two in Midnapore, seven in Howrah, nine in Dacca, two in Chittagong and two in Darjeeling. I think the House will realise that this is not a racial question of employing a European where an Indian constable can be employed.

The motion being put a division was then taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zahoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.

Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satoowripati.
Sarker, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Husayn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Daud, Mr. M.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan
Godfrey, Sir George.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Marr, Mr. A.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Moreno, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaje.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan
Rose, Mr. G. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephensen, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 61 and Noes 54 the motion was carried.

Adjournment.

The Council was then adjourned until 3 P.M. on Wednesday, the 26th March, 1924, at the Town Hall, Calcutta.

Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Government of India Act.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in the Town Hall, Calcutta, on Wednesday, the 26th March, 1924, at 3 P.M.

Present:

The Hon'ble the President in the Chair, the four Hon'ble Members of the Executive Council, the two Hon'ble Ministers, and 121 nominated and elected members.

Committee of Public Accounts.

Mr. PRESIDENT (the Hon'ble Mr. H. E. A. Cotton): The election is necessary of six non-official members to serve on the Committee of Public Accounts for the financial year ending 31st March, 1925. I find that by an oversight the requisite 7 days' notice cannot be given to enable the election to take place earlier than the 3rd of April. In order therefore to suit the convenience of members, I have decided to change, for the purpose of this election, the rule framed by me—sub-section (3) on page 279 of the Manual. I have, accordingly, directed that the names of candidates for election shall be sent in by the 28th which is next Friday. The Secretary will circulate the list of candidates on the same day and the election will be held on Monday next, March 31st.

Maulvi AFTAB HOSSAIN JOARDER: On the motion relating to the Ministers' salary, I voted in the "Aye" lobby, but my name has not been published in the newspapers.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Does your name appear in the official Division Lists?

Maulvi AFTAB HOSSAIN JOARDER: No, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Very well, I will have the statement recorded on the proceedings that you voted in the "Aye" lobby.

Starred Questions

(to which oral answers were given).

Raids in Jambani Pargana.

***XCIII. Mr. SATCOWRIPATI ROY:** (*a*) Is the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Police Department aware—

(*i*) that all the criminal cases brought against the tenants of the Jambani pargana as raiders under various charges were subsequently withdrawn; and

(*ii*) that the persons prosecuted were all discharged?

(*b*) Is the Hon'ble the Member aware—

(*i*) that the forcible catching of fish from tanks in the said Jambani pargana belonging to the proprietor of the Pargana as well as to the tenants was done by people coming from outside the Pargana; and

(*ii*) that a statement to that effect was on one occasion made by the officer in charge of the Jambani thana?

MEMBER in charge of POLICE DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson): (*a*) This is not the case. Some of the less important cases were withdrawn on a settlement being reached between the zemindar and tenants, but others were concluded and resulted in conviction.

(*b*) (*i*) The forcible catching of fish was participated in by residents of the Pargana as well as persons from outside.

(*ii*) No such statement has been traced.

Mr. SATCOWRIPATI ROY: Will the Hon'ble Member in charge be pleased to furnish the name of a single tenant of the Jambani Parganna convicted for such raid?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I want to have notice of this question. I cannot answer this question offhand.

Unstarred Questions

(answers to which were laid on the table).

Percentages of increases in receipts and expenditure.

140. Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Finance be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

(*i*) by what percentage the present receipts under each of the various provincial heads of revenue have increased above the actual receipts for 1912-13 under each of such heads;

(*ii*) by what percentage the present receipts under each of the Imperial heads of revenue realised from Bengal have increased above the actual receipts for 1912-13 under each of those heads; and

(*iii*) by what percentage the present expenditure (from revenue) under each of the various provincial heads have increased above the actuals of expenditure for 1912-13 under each of those heads?

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of FINANCE (the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald): With the introduction of the Reforms the distribution of revenue and expenditure between the Central and Provincial Governments has been altered, as has also the classification of accounts. Percentages of increases, therefore, cannot be given.

Senior classical teachers of High English Schools.

141. Rai SATYENDRA NATH ROY CHAUDHURI Bahadur: (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Education be pleased to state from what point of view the senior classical teachers of High English Schools are classified in regard to pay and promotion?

(*b*) Is it a fact that they are paid less than junior English teachers of High English Schools?

(*c*) If so, what is the reason for this discrimination?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq): (*a*) In the reorganisation of the Subordinate Educational Service Government aimed at providing different time-scales of pay for different classes of officers according to the nature and importance of the duties for which they were responsible.

(*b*) The rate of pay of a senior classical teacher is Rs. 60—4—120—4—160 rising by annual increments with an efficiency bar at Rs. 120. The rate of pay of an English teacher below the rank of an Assistant Head Master is Rs. 75—5—150—5—200 rising by annual increments, with an efficiency bar at Rs. 150.

(*c*) The difference in classification between senior classical teachers and English teachers was considered by Government to represent the difference in the nature of the work and the responsibilities of the two classes of teachers.

Receipts from Amusements Tax.

142. Babu BADRIDAS GOENKA: Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Finance be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the amounts of revenue derived each year since the introduction of the Amusements Tax from the following heads:—

(*i*) cinemas,

(*ii*) theatres,

(*iii*) races, and

(*iv*) any other sources under the Amusements Tax Act?

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: A statement is laid on the table.

Statement referred to in the reply to unstarred question No. 142 showing the amount of revenue derived each year from the Amusements Tax.

		1922-23.			1923-24. (10 months.)		
		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
I.	Cinemas	1,11,733	8	0	1,44,339	12	0
II.	Theatres	84,284	12	0	72,525	8	0
III.	Races	22,96,998	6	10	15,76,304	1	1
IV.	Other sources ..	22,378	10	0	22,041	15	9
	Total ..	25,15,395	4	10*	18,15,211	4	10†

* Of which Rs. 2,737 is credited under Stamps Receipts (VII Stamps).
† Of which Rs. 3,763-7-0 is credited under Stamps Receipts (VII Stamps).

Ticking off of names in Division Lists.

Mr. PRESIDENT: When members are passing through the lobbies at the time of taking the division, will they kindly see that as they pass the teller, their names are ticked off on the division lists? It will save a great deal of confusion if each member sees that this is done.

The Budget of the Government of Bengal, 1924-25.

Demands for grants.

26.—Police.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I move that the demand for Rs. 1,37,000 for pay of Temporary District Intelligence Staff under the head " 26C.—District Executive Force " be reduced by Rs. 57,000."

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: Apparently, the intention of the mover is to reduce this demand for the next year in view of the reduced expenditure that has occurred in the present year. According to my promise of last August, I have cut down the expenses under this head as much as possible; and I can hold out no hope that in the present circumstances of the Province any further reduction is possible.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Beroda Prosad.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Taraidar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Barton, Mr. N.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazial Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. G. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. P.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.

The Ayes being 51, and the Noes 48, the motion was carried.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: Sir, in the absence of Mr. Tarit Bhusan Roy, I ask your permission to move amendment No. 570.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Very well, Akhil Babu.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I move that the demand for Rs. 69,84,518, under the head "26C.—District Executive Force—Total Police Force," be reduced by Rs. 2,37,000.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: The remarks I made on the previous motion apply to this motion also.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Choinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Bereda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. H.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Heque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Naskar, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Taraifdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. F. N.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prasad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Meberiy, Mr. A. N.
Moreno, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. G.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaje.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pakhowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.

Rhee, Mr. A. F.
Ray, Mr. S. N.
Ray, Raja Manilal Singh.
Ray Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 56 and the Noes 52, the motion was carried.

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: I find that the items in which I wanted reductions to be made have been covered by the previous amendments; and as most of them have been carried, I beg leave to withdraw the following motion:—

"That the demand for Rs. 73,14,518 under the head '26C.—District Police—Salaries and Police Force' be reduced by Rs. 5,00,000."

The motion was, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: I move that the demand for Rs. 1,45,000 under the head "26C.—District Executive Force for Police Training School," be reduced by Rs. 50,000.

If there be one department with regard to which the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee have been thrown into the scrap-heap it is the Police Department. The Retrenchment Committee after considering all the departments recommended a total reduction of Rs. 1,90,00,000. Of this total, the cuts in the Police Department alone amount to—Rs. 26,28,800 under the head Bengal Police *plus* Rs. 8,13,500—Rs. 34,42,300. In other words, the suggested cuts in the Police Department form more than one-sixth of the total retrenchments covered by their recommendations. But how have these recommendations been treated? Well, with the utmost contempt and almost wholesale rejection. For the Government could see their way to accept reductions to the extent of only 4½ lakhs and could give immediate effect to cuts amounting to 3½ lakhs only. In a word, the Government could not accept even one-eighth of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee with regard to the Police Department. And this is the Government which is asking us to deal with the police budget on its merits.

Now, Sir, one of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee with regard to police expenditure was to this effect. In paragraph 140 of the Report the sane and sober members of the Committee observe:—

In addition to the Sardah College there were two contables' training schools, one at Berhampore and the other at Dacca. The Berhampore school was closed in January, 1922, and it has been decided to close the Dacca school also, tranferring the work done there to Sardah. The Sardah College provides training for assistant superintendents of police, deputy superintendents, sub-inspectors, assistant sub-inspectors and constables.

Then, the Committee go on to observe:—

But apart from the training of constables we do not consider the expenditure can be justified in present conditions. The Bombay Government have closed their central training school at Nasik on grounds of economy, and we think this is a direction in which retrenchment can legitimately be made.

The Committee further say:—

We have recommended that the constables of the Calcutta Police should be trained at Sardah. Until financial conditions justify it being re-opened we consider that the college should be closed except for the training of constables.

Yet we find that a provision of Rs. 1,60,000 has been made for police training school and what is more it is proposed to retain for the Sardah College a principal with a salary of Rs. 1,150 a month and the instructing staff instead of being reduced is going to be further strengthened. I therefore propose that the provision for the police training school should, in view of the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee, be immediately reduced by Rs. 50,000, and police training, I believe, will still have a larger provision for it than what was intended by the Retrenchment Committee.

I have one word more to say in this connection and I have done. Last time during the voting of grants when we were repeatedly pressing upon the Government the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee we were taken more than once to task, Sir, for not taking seriously the Government promise for consideration of the recommendations of the Committee. But now we find, Sir, we were perfectly justified in our sceptic attitude. For this is at least one of the items of police expenditure with regard to which the Hon'ble Member in charge observed:—

I may repeat that I hope we shall be able to reduce it still further.

But what do we find that instead of Rs. 1,50,000 budgeted under the head on the last occasion, a sum of Rs. 1,60,000 has been provided for in the present budget and this is what Government assurance means.

Babu DEBI PRDSAD KHAITAN: In discussing the budget in this House we are really in a difficult position because many of the amendments that have been tabled on the agenda paper are in pursuance of the obstructive policy adopted by the Swaraj Party. But, Sir, there can be no doubt that some of the motions tabled on the agenda paper are due to a desire not to obstruct Government but a sincere desire to effect economy. As regards this motion which is now under discussion it is supported by the findings of the Retrenchment Committee. The Hon'ble the Finance Member in introducing the budget stated that the finances of the province are not quite satisfactory having regard to the fact that a sum of Rs. 63 lakhs that were remitted to Bengal cannot be remitted after the lapse of a year. Government had put forward two satisfactory proposals by which they intend to meet this deficit of Rs. 63 lakhs if the remission is not made for the next year. I do not know, Sir, what proposal Government has got to effect retrenchment and economy and I think that the best course would be to effect economy in all directions. As this motion is supported by the Retrenchment Committee, I heartily support it.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Bejoy Babu, will you move your motion No. 573?

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: Sir, I would like to move it after the voting on motion No. 572.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It is on the same head and same subject as the other one. The previous motion is for a partial reduction whereas your motion is for the total refusal of the demand. If your motion is carried I shall not put the other motion.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: My point is that if motion No. 572 is not carried, I may not move No. 573.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Very well, Mr. Bose.

Mr. W. L. TRAVERS: Several months ago I had an opportunity of staying three days at the Sardah Training School, and I am glad to have this opportunity of testifying to the excellent work that is done in that school. All those who are under instruction, constables, assistant sub-inspectors, assistant superintendents, all work very hard and very strenuously, both mentally and physically. Now, Sir, during the budget debate of the last two days a good deal has been said by the members to the effect that the police do not realise their responsibilities as servants of the public. Now, Sir, I would like to point out that at Sardah there are frequent lectures to instil into the minds of the students that their work does not finish at the mere detection or even prevention of crime. They are taught their general duties to help the public in every way possible, and especially the poor. The ideal that was placed before the students at Sardah was that of the British policeman. There may be some members of this Council who will remember the words of a comic song sung in England a few years back of which the chorus is—"If you want to know the time, ask the policeman." The words of this song express in somewhat vulgar language the general respect and, I may almost say, affection which exist between the public and the policemen in England, and I take it that it is the wish of every member of this Council, whatever may be his politics, that that ideal of sincere co-operation may in due course be introduced into this province also. I wish to declare from what I saw in Sardah that there is no doubt that the police school is doing good work towards that end. In fact, I saw there and read a pamphlet issued by the police school which laid down the principle that it was one of the chief duties of the police to assist the public in every way imaginable, and I think I am correct in stating that that pamphlet was adopted by the Government of Bengal, printed and sent to every police officer in this province with orders as to the spirit in which the pamphlet was to be observed. I venture to remind the members of this House that the good training and education that is being given at Sardah is the

basis, the rough basis of the efficiency of the police force in this province, and if you are going to take away, decrease that efficiency, it will have a disastrous effect, an effect that will be felt by the people of the province, and above all by the poor of the province. I venture to suggest that instead of the members moving a reduction of the grant to the police school, they should first of all themselves take my example and go to the police school and see the training and good work that is being done there, and I am certain that no reduction of the grant for the police school would be suggested which would do a great disservice to the people of Bengal.

Mr. S. C. MUKERJI: I would never have got up to speak if it were not for the speech delivered by my esteemed friend Babu Debi Prosad Khaitan. I think we have understood from the very beginning of the discussion on this budget that this budget is not being discussed on its own merits. There is one clear-cut issue before this House and that issue is that diarchy must be ended, that the present system of administration must be brought to a standstill. If the budget were discussed on its own merits, there are many here in this House who would have taken up a different attitude towards the discussion of the budget. (A VOICE: "Take it now.") No, we are not going to take it. Let my Swarajist friends say that they have given up their own attitude and that they are prepared to take up another attitude; let them come forward and say clearly and frankly that they are prepared to discuss the budget on its own merits, and we are prepared to face that issue. So far as that issue is before the House, let there be no misunderstanding, no confusion, and let the country know distinctly and clearly that we are discussing this budget on one issue, and one issue alone, namely, whether the present system is to continue or not. That is the issue before the House and on that issue we are voting.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: I would not have stood up to say anything at the present moment had it not been for the speech just delivered by my friend opposite. He is determined to make himself famous, and I am not going to endorse that determination to make him famous, but there is one theme in season and out of season which he is mentioning in this Council for the last few days, and I believe outside as well, that the Swarajists are determined to end diarchy and therefore whatever resolutions, whatever motions might be put up for discussion, he would oppose. That shows how obtuse my friend is. He will never consider any question on its merits. Here is the police budget upon which hundreds of motions have been brought in, and my friend will not consider them on their merits, because some Swarajists have taken him into their confidence and told him that we are determined to put an end to the present system of Government. But, who is that friend, may I inquire? The only one

who associates with my friend opposite outside this Council is myself. I associate with him at Alipore and I have never taken him into my confidence. I want to know who is that friend who has taken him into confidence and told him that we are determined to do this thing and that thing. As far as I can recall, I have brought in 61 motions, and I can assure you that I have never consulted anybody on either side of the House on any of these motions since I sent them in. I would not have said anything, but my friend is determined not to consider any question on its merits. My friend Mr. Khaitan was kind enough to see eye to eye with us in this matter and have referred to the report of the Retrenchment Committee The arguments advanced are unanswerable, my friend does not refute those arguments, therefore he makes general observations. In this report I find that as far as the Sardah School is concerned, the Retrenchment Committee state that it imparts discipline, promotes the physical development of recruits, gives instruction in law, police procedure and methods, and to European officers instruction also in the vernacular.

Now, next to my friend Babu Akhil Chandra Datta, I claim that I am the only member of this House who has intimate knowledge of the police, both Bengal and Calcutta. I do not use it in a bad sense; I have been associated with these people for the last 23 years and I can assure you, that so far as discipline is concerned, they may be very good disciplinarians before their superiors, they may be very good marchers before their superiors, but so far as the public is concerned I want to know where that discipline is. I know there are hundreds of respeciable gentlemen who would not lodge one word of protest to the constables on the streets for fear they would be taken to the thana and charged for attempting to rescue a prisoner, false charges. That is the discipline imparted at the Sardah School and for that a principal on a pay of Rs. 1,150 is employed at Sardah. Why not employ deputy superintendents of police for the purpose of imparting lessons in discipline to these constables? As for their instruction in law, I would invite Sir Hugh Stephenson to go with me *in cognito* into the courts in Calcutta and outside, and watch what knowledge of law and procedure is possessed by all these sub-inspectors and court inspectors; it is a very poor knowledge; they are not even good enough to stand against mukhtears, and for that purpose we are going to spend several lakhs of rupees for the purpose of giving instruction in law.

As to giving instructions to European officers in the vernacular, I have come across many superintendents and assistant superintendents, and excepting one or two, I have not met anyone who has got even a fair knowledge of the vernacular. They may know Hindi but of the vernacular they know nothing. They have not got such knowledge of the vernacular as would enable them to understand and appreciate statements. In fact, a knowledge of the vernacular is essential in a police officer, and I can assure the House that even if witnesses make

their statements in the vernacular, they would not be able to understand it thoroughly. Therefore, the sooner this college is closed down the better.

My friend Rai Harendranath Chaudhuri has read certain portions from the report of the Retrenchment Committee, but he omitted to read the last few lines, and so far as this resolution is concerned, I would draw the attention of the House to these few lines:—

We do not know what staff will be necessary for this, but it should be in the charge of an experienced inspector, or deputy superintendent, and only the minimum staff necessary for efficiency should be retained. The training required by other ranks now attending Sarda may be given in the districts.

We have heard yesterday from Sir Hugh Stephenson that there are 33 sergeants, retired military officers, employed as sergeants in order to give training to these constables in the districts. I believe these constables do have their training in the districts; therefore, so far as the Principal and staff of 96 inspectors at Sardah is concerned, they are very costly, costing almost Rs. 75,994, and they may be dispensed with and the institution closed down. With these words, I support the motion for reduction.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: On a point of order, Sir, may I inquire whether the member has moved his motion No. 573.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I gather from your remarks, Mr. Bose, that you are in favour of closing the Sardah College altogether, so you may move your amendment as well.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: I withdraw the motion that stands in my name.

The following motion was then, by leave of the Council, withdrawn:—

"That the demand of Rs. 1,45,000 for Police Training School under the head '26 C.—District Executive Force' be refused."

Mr. S. C. MUKERJI: May I say a word of personal explanation? My esteemed friend wanted to know who are the Swarajist friends who took me into their confidence. My reply is that I always associate with true and genuine Swarajists and not with those who pose as Swarajists.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: On a point of order, is that an explanation or an abuse?

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: The attitude of the Swarajists with respect to this motion is considered to be two-fold. First of all a policy of destruction, throwing out the entire budget, total refusal, that is one part of the swaraj programme. The other part of the programme is the various motions for reduction on the merits. Now, Sir,

the attitude of our good friend over there, Mr. S. C. Mukerji, is this, that as the swarajists have put in some motions for total refusal of the grant, therefore, he will oppose the other motions, although on the merits he thinks he should support them. Now, it occurs to me if the Swarajists were to advocate two things in this House, namely, (1) to overthrow the entire budget, and (2) not to steal, not to commit a murder, am I to understand that because the Swarajists say that you should throw out the entire budget, therefore on the other measure, "do not steal, do not commit a murder," Mr. Mukerji shall say "No, I shall commit theft and murder?" That is the simple position.

Mr. EDWARD VILLIERS: On a point of order, Sir. Are these remarks germane to the matter under discussion?

Mr. PRESIDENT: They are very vague.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: It appears to me the position is this——

Mr. PRESIDENT: Your observations are in order if your argument is that when the police budget is thrown out everybody can commit theft and murder. But so far as I can make out you are not advancing that argument. I cannot therefore see the relevance

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I want by an illustration to show the absurdity of the position that has been taken up by Mr. Mukerji and to bring it home to him. It is simply this: that because I do not agree with the swarajists, therefore, I shall say "Evil be thou my good." Now I do not know him, Sir, I have not the honour and pleasure of his personal acquaintance, but I only know him by name and have always held him in the highest esteem. I should like to know, at the end of the day when he retires to his bed and takes stock of what he has done during the day, when his conscience will ask him, "Have you supported those motions which on their merits you ought to have supported?" I do not know what his answer to this question will be.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I do not possess personal knowledge of the police as my friend Babu Bejoy Krishna Bose has, but I can tell you of one experience which I have had of the police to show what ideas of discipline they gain at the Sardah school. I think Mr. Travers has said that they get very good training in discipline at that school. He has two advantages over us. In the first place his skin is white and in the second place he wears a hat. On one occasion I happened to go to the station wearing a dhoti. There was a sergeant and an Indian policeman on duty and I was promptly refused entrance. I saw another gentleman coming behind me; he was about ten shades darker than me with a hat on; he was allowed entrance. Another

gentleman in dhoti accompanied him but when he was refused admittance, he said "I have come with that gentleman in hat" and he was allowed to go in. The point is that it is possible that Mr. Travers and men like him who go about in hats and coats and trousers do not and cannot observe the want of discipline among the policemen, because in addition to what my friend Babu Bejoy Krishna Bose has said, the policemen some way or other show more respect to the white skin and a greater respect to the man who has got a *topee* on. This is the actual state of affairs which create such a dislike towards the policemen and this is the complaint which we have against the policemen. Simply because I happen to have a different skin and different mode of dress why should I not have the same privileges as the European or why should I be placed at a disadvantage? Therefore, so long as the mode of education is carried on in these lines, so long as our policemen are not taught to respect the people where respect is due, but only to respect colour and custom, I do not think that the discipline that is imparted at the Sardah school is enough for us to grant a large sum for their training at that school.

With these words I support the motion.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I know very well the training which is given to our policemen. I would state an incident which relates to this Chamber. When we enter this Council hall, we find that the European sergeants downstairs, when they see the European members coming in or the Ho'nble Members of the Executive Council and the Ministers, they at once rise up and show their respect; but when the Swarajists or other Indians who are black in colour come in, they never stand up. The Ministers hold a position, and therefore these sergeants must show their respect to the Ministers. They show their respect to the European gentlemen, because they belong to their own race. As regards the other members of the Council who are black and wear *khaddar* and at the same time cannot come to the Council in motors, these sergeants never show them any respect. If this is the case in respect of the sergeants who are the best men according to Sir Hugh Stephenson and who are sent down there to show their superior strength and discipline, I think the discipline that is given to the police men at the Sardah Training College is still worse. Hence and with these words I support the motion.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: Shall I be in order if I deliver a speech against this motion, but vote for the motion?

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is a matter for you to decide with your conscience. You will not be out of order if you speak against the motion but vote for it, but your speech must be connected with the police grant and not with jails or matters of that description.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: Sir, I was not very attentive in listening to the speeches of the Hon'ble members. I believe it is a motion

for reduction of the grant for the Police Training School at Sardah. I think that training school ought to be preserved and the whole amount demanded should be granted, and not a pie reduced, because if that institution is closed down, I believe the whole of the bureaucracy will have to pack up bag and baggage and go from this country; that is the chief germ-producing centre for the bureaucracy, and if the police are not trained in that way, they will have a very sad time of it here. I have had some experience of this police training. I will just show how the police is efficient, and without that training that efficiency would be nowhere. I had the audacity to sell *khaddar* in broad daylight on the streets of Burrabazar some two or three years ago and one gentleman, I believe a sergeant, came to me and arrested me without asking me any question; very gently he took me to the thana and gave me some nice dishes. I believe that is due to the training in this school and I am thankful to him. That gentleman was called as a witness when I was brought before the 4th Presidency Magistrate. After kissing the Bible—I believe he is a Christian—he said that he had arrested me as I was causing obstruction in public road and identified me. Another sergeant next came in and said that he had arrested me as well. I put a question asking how two gentlemen could arrest me at the same time, but the difficulty must be solved as both of them were Christians and they made this statement after kissing the Bible——

Mr. PRESIDENT: Hemanta Babu, it is not in order to discuss the religious opinions of anybody in this Council; it does not matter what his religion is.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: They must have told the truth after kissing the Bible that both of them arrested me. I do not want to discuss any religious question——

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have warned you not to discuss anybody's religious opinions.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: I bow to your decision, but the problem was how could two gentlemen arrest me at one and the same time; so I came to their rescue and said that both of them did arrest me one by the right arm and the other by the left. Again, the other day when I went to the Sessions Court to see the trial of Gopi Nath Saha, I sent in my card to the Deputy Commissioner of Police Mr. Wilson——

Mr. PRESIDENT: This is not relevant to this motion. It is not relevant to the question of discipline that you sent in a card to the Deputy Commissioner; you must pass on to another point.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: I am just going to show how disciplined these police officers are.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: Mr. Wilson left for England a year ago.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: My friend Mr. Suhrawardy reminds me that Mr. Wilson left for England a year ago. It must be another officer, so I leave that matter alone. But when I was inside the room one police officer came to me and asked me to clear out, because I was in *khaddar;* that also shows what training he had in this school. Then again, the other day when His Excellency entered this Council Chamber, I was stopped at the upper end of the staircase by an Inspector of Police; I told him I was a member of the Council, but he would not let me go in.

Then I referred the whole matter to His Excellency, and His Excellency wrote to me a very courteous letter and the Private Secretary informed me that the officer had to do an obvious duty. This sense of duty was perhaps acquired at Sardah, and such an useful institution must be preserved at any cost, and I do not know why my colleagues are cutting down the amount. I am rather for increasing the demand.

Maulvi MUHAMMAD YASIN: With regard to the question now before the House, I respectfully beg to submit that I want to place before the House my experience about these police officers gained during the last 25 years. We find in the mufassal that in cases of theft and robbery, the police want the owner of the house to detect the culprits and procure all the witnesses. Otherwise the case cannot be detected. I know my friend, the Hon'ble Mr. A. K. Fazl-ul Huq, some time ago in this House delivered a speech and in that speech he gave out his experience while he was a Deputy Magistrate. He told us that in the police reports he generally found that certain police officers used to write in the charge sheet—"Case true, no clue. (Sd.) Kalimuddin." I submit if you go to the mufassal, you will find the police practically doing no work. They send up innocent people and they always come forward with fabricated evidence——

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: Is the hon'ble member in order in saying that the whole police always come forward with fabricated evidence?

Mr. PRESIDENT: It is a very sweeping charge to accuse the whole force.

Maulvi MUHAMMAD YASIN: I stand corrected. What I meant to say was that a very large number of them do it.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Even that is very sweeping.

Maulvi MUHAMMAD YASIN: I submit that practically we get no justice there, and we find, Sir, that in many cases these police officers

go the length of trying to influence the trying magistrates. That is the worst of it, I can tell you from my own experience——

Mr. PRESIDENT: That does not arise. We are not discussing the trying magistrates, we are discussing the Sardah Training School.

Maulvi MUHAMMAD YASIN: I bow to your ruling, but my point is that the sort of training these people get is that they even try to influence the trying magistrates when there is no evidence in a case. I submit that it is absolutely useless to maintain a college like this. If you want to maintain a police college, let us have the best teachers there, and let the police have a far better training, so that when they come out, they may prove themselves worthy of the knowledge they get there.

Mr. EDWARD VILLIERS: I move that the question be now put. Mr. President then called upon Mr. Halder to speak.

Mr. S. N. HALDAR: I myself for my own part had no desire to speak on this resolution at all, but with regard to the remarks of some of the gentlemen here who have been saying that this college should be kept up in view of the wonderful training that is given there, I would, for the delectation of those members and for the information of the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson, give some samples of the sort of training they receive there. I would read from a judgment in a case recently tried in Pabna regarding the conduct of a sub-inspector of police, who, I believe, received his training in this college.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I do not think a quotation from a judgment delivered at Pabna is relevant.

Mr. S. N. HALDAR: I am quoting this for the purpose of showing what sort of training they get at Sardah.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I had been hoping for something stimulating in your maiden speech. You are quite capable of doing that.

Mr. S. N. HALDAR: May I give the name of the case?

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is not necessary.

Mr. S. N. HALDAR: In this case the sub-inspector took the dying declaration of a man in hospital and sent up two men on a charge of murder. The Sessions Judge commented on the conduct of the sub-inspector and said that the whole of the evidence given by the sub-inspector was fabricated and he recommended this man for punishment.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: Do I understand the hon'ble member to mean that the Sardah College teaches these men to fabricate evidence?

Mr. S. N. HALDAR: That is the sort of training that they get there.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I imagine that the mover of this motion had it in his mind to tempt me by the bitterness of his taunts into treating this motion as a constructive one. But, Sir, Akhil Babu has told us that the policy of the Swaraj party is to throw out the budget, and if by chance they cannot do that, they will do as much as they can in the matter of reduction. That cannot be called a constructive policy. I entirely accept Babu Bejoy Krishna Bose's statement that he sent in his 20, 40 or 60 motions for reduction entirely off his own bat without consultation or help of anybody else. But, Sir, that must have been before the Independent party to which he belongs had entered into an alliance with the Swaraj party to throw out the budget. (A VOICE: He belongs to the Swaraj party.) Then as his party had decided to throw out the budget, I cannot understand why he sent in those motions knowing the whole time that the swarajists intended to throw out the whole budget. But if I was tempted to be drawn into a discussion on this subject, I should be, I am afraid, badly put off by the fact that although I spoke at some length only a short time ago during the budget debate on the subject of the police retrenchments in accordance with the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee, and in particular mentioned all the facts regarding the Sardah School, the mover has come forward with a speech so full of inaccuracies that he could neither have been present nor taken the trouble to read either that speech or any speech I made at the last year's debate. But, Sir, for the benefit of Mr. Khaitan who has apparently been deluded into taking this as a motion of constructive politics, I should like to mention one or two things. Firstly, Sir, the Retrenchment Committee recommended that out of the Sardah College a sum—I think it came to about Rs. 1,97,000—might be retrenched. They admitted that the Sardah College was doing excellent work and that as soon as funds were available its full work should be taken up again. There was no question of the Retrenchment Committee recommending a diminution of the cost or the abolition of the Sardah College on the ground that it was not doing work that was worth doing. Their only point was that if we had got to make savings in the expenditure of the province, some retrenchment might be made there, but that when better times came, the college might be restored to its full working order. They quoted the Bombay School and I have no doubt that they took their idea from what happened in Bombay. They misunderstood entirely what happened in Bombay. In Bombay the college was temporarily closed as there were no sub-inspectors to train. It was partly reopened last year and reopened in full from the 1st January this year. Well, Sir, out of this Rs. 1,97,000 which the Retrenchment Committee thought might be saved and might be cut, we did cut Rs. 1,64,000 and that is

still cut. Therefore, I claim that we have followed the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee to the utmost.

Then, Sir, lest he might be misled by the somewhat inaccurate statement of the mover as regards the retrenchments generally in the police, I would inform the House that the Police Department has retrenched more in proportion than any other department. The retrenchments of the Police Department on the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee amount to just under Rs. 6 lakhs, and as I had occasion to point out before, the statement that the Retrenchment Committee recommended a cut of Rs. 34 lakhs out of the police is entirely inaccurate. I have said over and over again that even if everything had been done as the Retrenchment Committee had recommended, the savings would have come to less than 25 lakhs at the most. Therefore, we can say that we have made a cut of more than 25 per cent. of the sum recommended by the Retrenchment Committee.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Remes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Soroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haider, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmahon.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Ray, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Ray, Mr. D. H.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Haliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Hisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shahced.
Taraidar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.

Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Prevash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. G.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 59 and the Noes 56, the motion was carried..

Babu MANMOHAN NEOGI: I move that the demand of Rs. 12,00,000 for travelling allowance under the head "26C.—District Executive Force—District Police" be reduced by Rs. 3,00,000.

[At this stage the Hon'ble the President left the Chamber and Kumar Shib Shekhareswar Ray took the chair.]

In moving this motion, Sir, I beg to draw the attention of the House to some of the facts which I have taken from the budget volume. Now, Sir, it appears from that book that in the course of the last three years the expenditure under "Travelling Allowances and other allowances" has gone up by Rs. 9 lakhs, i.e., in 1919-20 the expenditure was Rs. 32 lakhs, in 1920-21 it was Rs. 34 lakhs and in 1921-22 it was Rs. 41 lakhs. Under this head the Retrenchment Committee recommended a cut of Rs. 4 lakhs, but instead of there being a decrease, the expenditure is on the increase. The estimate of the next year shows an increase over the present by over Rs. 1,10,000. So it appears that Government has not done anything to reduce expenditure under this head. So my proposal is that the expenditure under this head should be 25 per cent. less.

With these few words I move this amendment.

Babu JOGINDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVORTI: I would like to offer a few remarks on this motion which has been brought forward by Babu Manmohon Neogi. And my reason for doing so is to draw special attention to the members of the House to some particular features of the police expenditure so far as the District Police Force is concerned. Sir, I think one word of explanation may be necessary as to why I am rising to speak on an amendment of this description when it has been said over and over again that discussion on these amendments on their merits would be useless because the party to which I belong has already

made up its mind to throw out the entire budget. I have been in Calcutta for the last few days and I see that the work of the Calcutta Improvement Trust is going on all round and the work of demolition is going on at a very rapid pace. The work of demolition that is going on is being pursued with a certain object in view, *viz.*, to construct new buildings and to make improvements in the existing state of things. That is certainly the object underlying the whole procedure; and, therefore, I should think that, if I discuss the merits of this budget it is with this object in view that any remarks made may be made use of for the purpose of any constructive scheme that may be brought forward by any party—it does not matter by which party and they may be of some advantage and profit to the Government. With that end in view I venture to put forward my remarks on the subject.

It will be found on looking at the budget figures that under the head "District Police travelling allowance," we find that the voted amount is Rs. 17,00,000 and the non-voted, Rs. 32,000. In this connection we cannot fail to notice the staff for which this provision for travelling has been provided for. The Hon'ble Member in charge will be pleased to see that, so far as the district staff is concerned, there is provision for 38 Superintendents, 52 Assistant Superintendents and 25 Deputy Superintendents. These superior officers take up, under the head "Salary," an amount of Rs. 8,66,000 and the travelling allowance comes up to Rs. 12,32,000. The travelling allowance, I take it, includes not only the travelling allowance of the superior police force but also that of the other members of that force. We have been told over and over again by the Hon'ble Member in charge that very best efforts have been made to give effect to the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee and that the suggestions which have been made from time to time in the last Council by the members have also been given effect to as far as possible We find, Sir, that on looking at the budget so far as the superior police force in the district is concerned, there has been no retrenchment. As a matter of fact in 1923-24 we had 38 Superintendents; the number of Superintendents is the same in 1924-25; we had in 1923-24 50 Assistant Superintendents and the provision for next year is 52. Thus you see, Sir, here is an an increase. As regards the Deputy Superintendents we had 24 and we have now 25. Here is another increase. Therefore, apart from any attempt at retrenchment, we find that there has been a tendency towards an increase. Sir, any one who lives in the districts, as I do, must feel it a matter of deep concern regarding the manner in which the police administration is going on in the districts. It is well known to every one and I need not repeat the fact any more that the district police force, at any rate, as far as my knowledge goes, do not enjoy any reputation so far as their honesty is concerned. And therefore, Sir, it is no wonder if one cannot resist the temptation of inquiring as to what progress regarding the honesty of the police officers has been

achieved by increasing the number of these supervising officers—the Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents and Deputy Superintendents who, as I have already said, come up to 38 + 52 + 25 officers and take away this large sum of money—Rs. 8,66,000 as salaries.

Mr. CHAIRMAN (Kumar Shib Shakhareswar Ray): Order, order. I think we are discussing the question of travelling allowance. You had better confine your remarks to the subject-matter of discussion.

Babu JOGINDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVORTI: Are we not discussing the whole thing, that is to say, on all these amendments?

Mr. CHAIRMAN (Kumar Shib Shekhareswar Ray): No, Jogindra Babu—we are not. Will you please confine your remarks to the subject under discussion?

Babu JOGINDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVORTI: The point really comes to this that such a large sum of money amounting to Rs. 12,32,000 is spent largely for 38 + 52 + 25 officers. That is how my point as to the honesty and efficiency and the number of superior officers came in. However, I say that it is a matter of deep concern to every one who lives in the districts as to how this large part of revenue is being swallowed up by the superior police officers only as travelling allowances given to them. So far as I can make out, it is surely a sum which seems to be very unjustifiable having regard to the revenue which the Government has at its command.

Well, Sir, if I may be permitted to make one more remark—I am of course speaking from recollection, and I may not be very accurate in this matter—I will refer to a certain remark which my most esteemed friend, the Hon'ble Mr. A. K. Fazl-ul Huq (I see he is not now in this House) made in connection with the budget that, if he were in charge of the Police Department, he would be in a position to run the whole department at one-fourth or half the cost of the amount estimated. Now, Sir, he is a Member of the Government; and although he is not in charge of this branch of administration, I take it that as a Minister, he had some part in the preparation of this budget, but we do not find that his advice has been of any advantage to the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Police Department. This question of reducing expenditure on travelling allowance to police officers is surely one which is of very great importance to the whole country and I do, therefore, most earnestly support this amendment which stands in the name of Babu Manmohon Neogi for the reduction of travelling allowances of the district police.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: In discussing this matter of travelling allowances to be given to the police, I would like to place before the House a few facts which are known to many of my hon'ble friends here who come from the mufassal. The idea of giving the police

allowances for travelling is to enable the police to go into the interior of the districts to make investigations with regard to cases and other matters. But, Sir, is it not known to the House or to the Hon'ble Member in charge that the police do not ordinarily have to pay anything out of their allowances? They are the guests of the villages through which they pass. Even their cart hire and carriage hire are borne by the villagers whose cases they go to investigate and very often they take money from both sides.

Mr. CHAIRMAN (Kumar Shib Shekhareswar Ray): You should not make such a sweeping statement.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: I said very often—not always. The police goes to the prosecutor and charges him for all his expenses in spite of what he draws from the Government which is paid from the taxpayers' money. They also ask the accused to give them something. In these circumstances, are we justified in asking the taxpayers to pay doubly? The police takes money from both sides and we are again called upon to spend all this money which is mentioned in the demand for grant. Sir, it is inequitous that we should be called upon to spend any money at all under this head.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I must confess that whenever any argument has been introduced by any member in this House that the Retrenchment Committee has stated such and such with regard to such and such subject, the Hon'ble Member in charge invariably replies—at least he has done so—replied on two occasions that the Retrenchment Committee had not sufficient materials before them for forming their opinions with regard to certain subjects. If that be so—I was not a Member of the Council at the time when the Retrenchment Committee was appointed—I do not know what help had Government given them during the progress of their investigations?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: It will help matters a good deal if I explain at this stage that Dr. Roy has misquoted what I have said on two occasions. On both the occasions I said not that the Retrenchment Committee did not obtain sufficient materials to come to a judgment but that the procedure they adopted prevented Government from knowing on what materials they had come to the conclusion. We have, therefore, in every case had to examine the matters afresh.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: What I mean to say is this: that there ought to have been some kind of co-operation between the work of the Retrenchment Committee and the Government in order to enable the Committee to arrive at right conclusions. As a matter of fact with regard to the allowances that are being demanded now, I may say that I am personally opposed to every form of allowances whether these are halting allowances, travelling allowances or duty allowances. As a

matter of fact if we look into the Civil List we find that there are practically seven or eight kinds of allowances and I know of certain gentlemen who draw five different allowances. The reason is obvious. I would rather pay a man a higher salary and let him know exactly what he has got to get at the end of the month than put him—shall I say —in the way of temptation by letting him look forward to certain sums of money which he might earn at the end of the month by touring. As Mr. Banerjee has pointed out in the majority of cases of tours we find from our own experience, that the travelling allowances which are given to police officers are not spent at all.

[At this stage the President returned to the Chair.]

As far as I can gather most of these allowances are often accumulated and not spent. Therefore, if we find that a particular officer is worth to get a particular sum he should rather be given that sum in a lump by way of salary than allowing him to make it up by various allowances. He looks to the allowances more as a sort of fixed pay than anything else. Therefore, I oppose this particular item being granted.

Maulvi ASIMUDDIN AHAMAD spoke in Bengali in support of the motion. The translation of his speech is as follows:—

It is always said that the police have been kept for the maintenance of law and order; but we find and learn from the newspapers, etc., that it is the police who create various kinds of unrest and oppressions; and I can mention by name and say that the inhuman oppressions perpetrated by the police on the harmless villagers at Mahini, Naljhari and Charmanair can not really be forgotten.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Maulvi Sahib, the Charmanair case is *sub judice;* any discussion on this subject now will not be proper.

Maulvi ASIMUDDIN AHAMAD: We always find that it is when the harmless, illiterate villagers have caught thieves, robbers or other classes of offenders and sent information to the police or produced the accused before them, that the police take up the cases. The police are very rarely seen to arrest any thief, robber or any other offender by themselves. I fail to understand why then the police expenditure is being increased daily.

If the Government have become unpopular with the public their unpopularity is in a great measure due solely to the conduct of the police.

Government are only putting down or punishing the offenders; but they take no notice at all of the reasons why they commit the offences.

The police officers never give any wholesome advice to the people to persuade them not to commit any offence; they only provide for their punishment when they commit any offence.

The people go without food and clothing; they are constantly dying of starvation, want of sleep, cholera, malaria and kala-azar; they somehow pass their lives, lying down like dogs and jackals on the sides of the

roads, in the sun and the rains and during severe cold. The Government are perfectly indifferent in these matters, while lakhs of rupees are being spent for providing cots and mosquito-curtains and allowances for the police.

If, instead of spending such extravagant sums of money for the Police Department, Government spent the money for instructing the people and removing the causes for the offences, there would then have been no need for maintaining such a large number of police.

It is for these reasons that I can not agree to the police budget.

Dr. MOHINI MOHAN DAS rose to speak.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Dr. Das, before you begin with your speech, I would remind you that last time you were a good deal out of order. I would, therefore, request you not to trangress beyond the subject-matter of discussion this time. Do not try to do so on the supposition that I do not understand Bengali.

Dr. MOHINI MOHAN DAS spoke in Bengali. The translation of his speech is as follows:—

The expenditure under the police head is assuming such a serious proportion that it has become to us an object of grave concern. The Revenue of Bengal is 11 crores of rupees but on a referene to the police budget for the last years we are led to come to the irresistible conclusion that the whole of the revenue will be exhausted on police alone within the next 25 years. It is true that when a foreign Government has to run its administration in an alien country, it has to do so by certain devices and tacts, namely, the conferment of titles, the giving of appointments, etc., but when their policy turns out to be a failure the police will have to be treated with grandfatherly interest particularly when the thousands and thousands of our countrymen are dying of starvation, recking with indigence and become an easy prey to malaria, kala-azar, cholera, etc. We find that this pet police of Government is even eyed with suspicion and this fact has been made patent in the Police Conference that took place in Calcutta some time ago. It happens oftentimes that these police officers who are not conversant with the manners and habits of living in this country, are imported from England and assume responsibility over those whose social position and standing are much superior to them. The result is that the police officers in this country lack responsibility and energy to a certain extent. When we closely analyse the temperament of these police officers we find that they do not think for a single moment that they are the servants of public and the custodians of their peace. As a matter of fact they think themselves to be the monarchs of all they survey; as a result of which they are treated in this country with scorn and contempt. The Criminal Investigation Department officers of this

country generally torment their fellow countrymen. While the Criminal Investigation Department officers are loved and respected for their work in other countries they in turn lose the confidence of the public here. Nearly 95 per cent. of the population of this country are villagers, why should these villagers pay for the maintenance of these police officers who have lost their confidence? Sir, if there exists any faction or party which is filled with discontent let the Government mend matters. But why should the money sucked from the life blood of the mass be spent on such a police which is an object of terror to the villagers and agriculturists? Why should our country men's money be spent for our countrymen's dissatisfaction? One word more, the bulk of the police is kept for the prevention of crime in this country?. Remove the terrors which instil into the hearts of our countrymen and their dire wants and crime will automatically disappear. Prevention, Sir, is better than cure.

Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY: You know, Sir, that I am not given to much speaking, though I feel called upon to speak a few words on this occasion. It has been said by the Hon'ble Member in charge of this department that Government is not going to give effect, or, at least, that amount of effect that it should give, to the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee, because it was not in a position to know on what materials the Retrenchment Committee worked. In the Retrenchment Committee there was Mr. Spry, who was Financial Secretary to the Government, and there was the President of the Chamber of Commerce. The Committee was presided over by Sir Rajendra Nath Mukherji, who is held in the highest esteem by the Government and its officers. If all these members of the Retrenchment Committee could not ascertain the real facts or the correct materials upon which they proceeded, I am at a loss to understand what other committee could there have been which could be expected to do justice to the subject placed in their charge?

As regards the specific question of travelling allowance, of course, it goes without saying that officers who have got to go to other places should be paid their proper travelling allowances. If these are not paid the chances are that would not do much work. If they are expected to meet the expenses of their travelling from their own pay, or if sufficient travelling allowance is not paid to them, they may be induced to shirk their duty or they may try to obtain money by unfair means. So travelling allowance is an incidence of expenditure which is a very necessary one but what we object to is this: that the nature of travelling done by the police officers in regard to the investigation of cases may very well be improved. We have our own experience to say that an inspector or a sub-inspector is sent out to investigate a certain case; then perhaps he is taken away before he finishes that case and sent out to another case and another police officer is sent in his place

to take up that case. In this way not one officer but several officers are sent out one after another or perhaps two or three at a time to investigate a certain case. While they are investigating that case the Deputy Superintendent or the Superintendent makes frequent visits to supervise the investigation. In many cases they unsettle more than help the investigation, and the travelling allowances has got to be paid to them all. Our objection to the travelling allowance is in the method of travelling more than to the travelling allowance itself.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: From the speech of Babu Boroda Prosad Dey it will appear that there is still some misapprehension with regard to what I have said concerning the Retrenchment Committee's procedure and I should like to make it clear to the House that the Retrenchment Committee, when they first met, laid it down that the evidence of witnesses should not be published, that nothing should be kept on record and that the list of witnesses should not be published and that neither the Government nor the public nor anybody else should know either, what witnesses were examined or what the witnesses said. When the report came out (a great deal of it has been quoted this afternoon) it gave not the reasons but only the decisions it arrived at. As the decision in the matter of retrenchment rested with Government, Government could not pass its responsibility on to the Committee of whose reason it knows nothing and of whose evidence it has no knowledge.

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: When the Retrenchment Committee decided to take the evidence *in camera* did they decide it with the approval of Government or without the approval of Government?

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Hon'ble Member cannot answer that question.

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: I wanted to know if he knew.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: Government had nothing whatever to do with it.

Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY: There was a difference of opinion between the Government and the Committee.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Hon'ble Member has said that the Committee came to their decision quite independently.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I gave to the House my own personal opinion, that it was a mistake. I have attempted to make it clear that we could not blindly accept the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee; we could only take them as suggestions and we had ourselves to go into each case and decide for ourselves

on the facts and figures before us what the right course was. Well, Sir, I am not convinced by the charming analogy of Babu Jogindra Chandra Chakravorti as to the effect on the rural mind coming to Calcutta of the stupendous work of the Improvement Trust, because, although, as he says, the work of the Improvement Trust begins with destruction, it ends in construction—that is the whole point—I am unable to convince myself that the motions of the Swaraj party go further than the first stage, namely, destruction.

Babu JOGINDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVORTI: Construction later on.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: Therefore I maintain the attitude I have taken up with regard to other motions. I should be only too happy to give any explanation of the figures of the budget to some of the members who have rather puzzled themselves and put a wrong explanation on them. I should like to draw attention at once to the fact that out of the sum of 12 lakhs 6½ lakhs is the pony allowance and bicycle allowance of the sub-inspectors and assistant sub-inspectors. Therefore, that is a fixed allowance, fixed for all sub-inspectors and head constables who are entitled to it. Therefore, there is no possibility of retrenching that without abolishing the whole system of house allowance. When, therefore, we talk about 12 lakhs being an enormous sum and suggest that it is possible to reduce it by 1, 2 or 3 lakhs, we must remember that we have provided for ordinary travelling not Rs. 12,00,000 but Rs. 5,50,000 only.

The motion that the demand of Rs. 12,00,000 for travelling allowance under the head "26C.—District Executive Force—District Police" be reduced by Rs. 3,00,000 was then put, and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zahoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohan.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boroda Prasad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedul.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohan.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.

Mallick, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Amiharan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazial Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. G.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghurnavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prasad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Roshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Prevash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Moreno, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. G.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. G. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 60 and Noes 62, the motion was lost.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand for Rs. 12,00,000 for travelling allowances for District Police under the head "26C.—District Executive Force" be reduced by Rs. 2,00,000.

He spoke in Bengali, the English translation of which is as follows:—

The expenditure under this head is increasing by leaps and bounds day by day. Whereas no money is forthcoming for the purpose of sanitation, education and public health. I do not like to advance any arguments in this direction but what I mean to say is this that if it is the intention of Government to reduce the expenditure under this head it can safely be done.

Babu Akhil Chandra Datta rose in his place in support of the motion but made no speech.

The motion being put a division was taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chuadhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shan Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinirenjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Taraifdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Coffin, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. G.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Roshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. G. P.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilal Singh.

Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 59 and the Noes 62, the motion was lost.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 1,20,000 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—House-rent and other allowances' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 1,20,000 for house-rent and other allowances for District Police under the head '26C.—District Executive Force' be reduced by Rs. 65,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,20,000 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—House-rent and other allowances' be reduced by Rs. 20,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 2,70,000 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—cost of railway warrants' be reduced by Rs. 30,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,40,000 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—Escort Charges' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 1,40,000 for Escort Charges for District Police under the head '26C.—District Executive Force' be reduced by Rs. 60,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 18,24,212 under the head '26C.—District Police Force' for allowances, honoraria, etc., be reduced by Rs. 7,00,000."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: I move that the demand for Rs. 18,24,212 for allowances under the head "26C.—District Executive Force" be reduced by Rs. 2,00,000.

Our motives in moving these reductions as also our *bona fides* in pressing these motions have been questioned. It has been questioned by the Hon'ble Members on the Treasury Bench who have chosen sometimes to reply to our motions and at other times to abstain from replying to some of them. It has also been questioned by members who owe their seats in this Council not to the suffrage of the nation, but to the kindness of the Hon'ble Members on the Treasury Bench. Sir, as we have a homely saying in our language, the heat of the sun

is sometimes bearable, but not the warmth of the sand heated by sunshine. Be that as it may, let me try to explain why we are going to move motions for total refusal as well as to press motions for reduction. Sir, the motions for total refusal of certain demands stand on a different footing from the motions for reduction. As has been clearly stated by more than one speaker, and as I understand it, the motions for total refusal are being moved on account of a constitutional issue—it is just to enter an emphatic protest against some of the decisions of the Government and their unyielding attitude that these motions are being brought forward. They are also moved in order to mend or end the present system of administration—the system known as diarchy. But, so far as the motions for reductions are concerned, they are being moved, as I have said, on altogether different grounds. These motions are being urged on economic and financial grounds. I have yet to know, Sir, that because we have chosen to move motions for total refusal on constitutional issues, we are precluded from bringing forward motions on economic and financial grounds; I have yet to know the logical standpoint of those members who profess this sort of logic. Now, apart from these observations, I proceed to discuss the motion in question.

Sir, I do not know if, in the opinion of the Government, all the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee are based on wrong materials or on wrong grounds, but I find that in paragraph 404 of their report, the Committee says:—

The total expenditure of Government on account of travelling allowance during the last three years is as follows:—

	Rs.
1919-20	32,16,630
1920-21	35,75,154
1921-22	41,33,317

"The increase of over 9 lakhs in two years is," the Committee observe, "due in part to the increase of railway fares," etc., but "of the increase of 9 lakhs in the last two years, the Police—the District Executive Force—are responsible for no less than Rs. 3,53,000." Sir, my motion relates to the sum that has been provided for travelling allowances under this head—a sum which appears to us extravagant. It has also reference to certain other items under this head, as for example "Rewards."

With reference to this item also the Retrenchment Committee made some comment. Thus in paragraph 450 (c) they remark—The district Expenditure on police rewards increased by more than 50 per cent. in the two years following the provincialisation of the grant.

Such items, therefore, I mean to attack. Even if my motion be accepted by the Council, I do not think the administration will in any way be seriously handicapped, as it will still have a provision of 17 lakhs under this head. With these observations, I beg to commend my motion to the acceptance of the Council.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: I believe, Sir, we are here in this Council all interested in economy. My objection to the items in the police budget is this that the amounts budgeted for these different sub-heads of the Police Department are extremely extravagant. May I, Sir, request the Hon'ble Member in charge to give me the information as to whether in preparing the budget he consulted the Ministers. I believe he did not—because under the constitution he is not bound to do so. I believe these items in the police budget were all prepared in the reserved side by the Member of the Executive Council. If he had consulted the Hon'ble Ministers, I believe, he could have made various cuts on various items of this budget. In making these observations, Sir, I have in my mind a speech which was delivered by one of the Ministers at a very momentous occasion, viz., in 1920, when the Reforms were inaugurated and the Council met for the first time. I have got this quotation from a speech of the Hon'ble Mr. Fazl-ul Huq:—

> Take for instance, the case of the Police Department. The member of Government in charge of this Department is now Sir Henry Wheeler, one of the ablest members of the Indian Civil Service. The budget of expenditure for this department during 1920-21 is a little over a crore and half. Now I do not mind declaring openly that I look upon all this expenditure as most unjustifiable and most extravagant. If Sir Henry Wheeler were good enough to hand over to me his portfolio regarding this department for one year only I could easily show him that the work of this department could be done twice as efficiently with only half of their expenditure. This is no vain boast but a challenge which I am prepared to make good to the very letter.

My friend opposite, Sir, was then presiding over the Midnapore Session of the Bengal Provincial Conference.

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: He was not a Minister then.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: He was then speaking from the Presidential Chair as a responsible member of the public. He did not make a vain boast, but challenged the Government to make over the Police Department for one year and that he would be able to manage it twice efficiently at half the cost. I appeal to the members opposite—they are often appealing to us. Would they agree to consult the Hon'ble Ministers? We are all interested in economy. Would the members on the opposite side, Europeans and Indians, nominated or elected, agree with me that there is no harm in Sir Hugh Stephenson holding a consultation with the Hon'ble Mr. Fazl-ul Huq and try to reduce the police budget? We are all interested in economy. If from one crore seventy lakhs the budget could be reduced by 35 lakhs that would be for the benefit of the province. This morning I found out the speech and I remember it though it was delivered long ago because I was present at the Conference. Now, I hope that he, as a Minister, has not changed his mind—he says "no." That is an additional

ground for which I make an appeal to the members opposite to throw out the entire budget and every item of the police grant and then after holding a consultation with my friend bring out a fresh budget on the police head.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: This is not the first time that my friend Babu Bejoy Krishna Bose has done me the honour of quoting some of my speeches delivered in unguarded moments of irresponsibility (loud laughter).

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: We were comrades in arms then.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: Under conditions much different from those of to-day. At the same time, Sir, I am free to admit that I still adhere to the view that the police budget is somewhat extravagant. I believe, Sir, that the budget could reasonably be cut down materially and without impairing the efficiency of the Department. It is true that I said that if the portfolio were handed over to me I could run the administration at half the cost and with double the efficiency. I do not know if I can actually keep to the exact figure; but I feel that if the portfolio were really handed over to me I might make an affempt and make good the boast that I once made. But when all is said and done, Sir, I do not agree that each and every item in the budget is unnecessary or unjustified and ought to be indiscriminately thrown out. There is much of extravagance on both sides. There is extravagance on the part of the opposition, if my friends will pardon me—they are also going to the other extreme of exhibiting extravagance in suggesting economy by throwing out the entire budget. What I feel, Sir, is that this budget is a budget in the preparation of which we had absolutely no hand and I have repeatedly said we have not had a chance yet. Let me have the opportunity to make good that boast, and I do not think it is fair to ask me to make good that boast if I am not given that chance. If my friends would give me the opportunity I might try, but if I do not get the chance I cannot.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: I hope, Sir, that the remarks of the Hon'ble Mr. A. K. Fazl-ul Huq to-day have not been uttered in the same spirit of irresponsibility in which the speaker made the remarks long ago and the time may come when we may have the opportunity of confronting him with the self-same remarks and ask him to make good his boast in attempting to reduce the police budget.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I very much admire the cleverness of the Swaraj party who always have a second line of defence when they are driven from the first. After defeating them on two occasions on the travelling allowances, we find that they have a third line of defence in another motion carefully and cunningly hidden away in

another page which will enable them to put to the test again the same subject. When they find that there is no chance of the motions for total reductions being successful, they know that they will still have an opportunity of voting on the same subject when the motion for the demand is put; and they have converted these tactics to an exact science. If one looks through the programme of the debate one will find that there are successive stages whereby if they are defeated on the main motion, they still hope to lop off a little more or little less, and so on down the scale. That, Sir, will help Rai Harendranath Chaudhuri to realise how it is that I cannot understand the mentality of those who put forward a motion to reject the whole of the police budget and then are seriously—I believe quite seriously—taken aback or rather annoyed that Government does not in detail argue with them over the cuts on smaller matters which, if they had their way, would be consigned with the rest to the limbo of the past. Therefore, this motion is again one of those motions on which I abstain from replying.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Bereda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinirnjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Hussyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Alley, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.

Choudhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dosa, Rai Bahadur Fyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Rashee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 59 and the Noes 63, the motion was lost.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 3,71,000 for clothing charges for District Police under the head '26C.—District Executive Force' be reduced by Rs. 71,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 3,71,000 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—Clothing Charges,' be reduced by Rs. 40,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 1,97,000 for fixed boat hire and contingencies for District Police under the head '26C.—District Executive Force' be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,97,000 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—Fixed boat-hire and contingencies' be reduced by Rs. 97,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 6,45,900 for contract contingencies for District Police under the head '26C.—District Executive Force' be reduced by Rs. 2,45,900."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 6,45,900 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—Contract Contingencies' be reduced by Rs. 45,900."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 1,70,000 for petty construction and repair, for District Police under the head '26C.—District Executive Force' be reduced by Rs. 70,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,70,000 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—Petty constructions and repairs' be reduced by Rs. 25,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 1,55,000 for other non-contract charges for District Police under the head '26C.—District Executive Force' be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,55,000 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force—District Police—other non-contract charges' be reduced by Rs. 90,000."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 1,00,000 for the supply of iron cots and mosquito curtains to the Police Force under the head "26C.—District Executive Force" be refused.

He spoke in Bengali. The translation of his speech is as follows:—

I have incessantly protested against items of this description, but my protests have been cries in the wilderness. In this country thousands and thousands of people are dying of malaria and kala-azar, cholera, small-pox and other preventible diseases. The people have been reduced to skeletons for want of sufficient nourishment. As a matter of fact they do not know what two meals a day mean. Scarcity of drinking water in villages is also a dominant feature. While the country is being devastated from one end to another from malaria and while the people of the country are dying in millions for want of medical treatment and proper food the Government contemplate providing the Calcutta Police with iron cots and mosquito curtains such indeed is the irony of fate. The apportionment of the Budget Estimate in such a just and equitable manner—if it can be designated as just and equitable at all—would have created a thrill of horror and indignation in any other independent countries, but here, in India, such an item is not regarded seriously. When the question of the Police Budget is taken up by the Government the Government prodigally allots any amount of money necessary for their amenities of life. But alas, when the question for the eradication of malaria, dissemination of education, improvement of sanitation, sufficiency of water-supply arises, Government pose themselves as bankrupt It would be prudent on the part of the Government to disallow this item of expenditure having regard to the straitened circumstances of the people of this country. I appeal to the Government most sincerely most devoutly not to pass this expenditure. It is ridiculously absurd I repeat again to

provide for this sum when the country especially at a time is seething with discontent consequent on their unemployment and want of food.

Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY: I beg to move that the demand of Rs. 1,00,000 for the supply of iron cots and moskuito curtains to the Police Force under the head '26C.—District Executive Force' be refused.

I do not propose to insult the intelligence of this House by making any speech on this motion. The members have seen what ridiculously small sums have been provided for combating malaria, the scarcity of water-supply and other necessary things. So practically it comes to this that all nation-building departments have been starved, and the Police Department which is looked upon by the people as the nation-destructing department has been served with funds.

Babu MANMOHON NEOGI: I beg to support the motion. I should like to draw the attention of the House to one aspect of the question and that is this: I fear it will be a recurring expenditure for the future years, because these mosquito curtains and cots are required for the whole force and from the way in which the amount is proposed to be spent this year it is apparent that we will be called upon to sanction a grant every year. So it becomes a recurring expenditure, and from that point of view I hope the House will reject the demand.

Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: I beg to support this motion, and in doing so I would like to make a few observations. The other day some members remarked that we were grudging the elementary comforts of life to the police officers, and some of them asked whether the police officers and the police servants were not human beings and whether they did not require the most elementary comforts of life, such as iron cots to sleep on and mosquito curtains to protect their persons from the attack of mosquitoes. I would point out one thing more: I think some of the members may argue that some time ago the Corporation of Calcutta took it into its head to maintain a Mosquito Brigade, and as far as I am aware some provision was made for that purpose, but only recently the work of the brigade has been stopped for want of fund. Now, if such a thing is allowed in other departments, what is the harm, it may be asked, to allow a lakh of rupees for cots and mosquito curtains for the police? To that my answer is this: there are Government servants in various departments, but to none of them are allowed such elementary comforts of life as to the police officers. May I ask whether they are not as faithful Government servants as the police and whether they do not discharge the same sort of public duties as the police officers? And yet if any allowance is given to them for their comforts, it is gradually deducted from their pay. Is this justice to all classes of Government servants? Why should this sort of indulgence be given to one class of Government

servants and refused to others? I may say without fear of contradiction that there has been a volume of feeling against it in the country and some heart-burning among the Government servants of other departments who look upon this sort of indulgence with suspicion. I cannot understand the attitude of Government in giving this sort of indulgence to one particular class of officers, and unless this attitude is explained, the suspicion will remain and the heart-burining will continue. As to the Mosquito Brigade, I may point out that, apart from the question whether it is right or wrong, the proposal was made for the good of all classes of people without any invidious distinction The work that was to be done by the Mosquito Brigade was meant for the people at large and not for any particular class. Now, Sir, the police expenditure is increasing year after year, and yet further provisions are made in the budget for an additional indulgence to be given to the police officers and servants only. The invidious distinction smacks favouritism and creates heart-burning that prevails among several classes of the Government servants. This is not good for the administration itself. With these words I support the motion and ask the House to refuse the grant.

[At this stage the Council was adjourned for 15 minutes.]

[After the adjournment.]

HAJI LAL MAHAMMED addressed the Council in vernacular.

Maulvi EKRAMUL HUQ: I rise to support the motion. The demand is for iron cots and mosquito nets. I would like to know if these things actually existed before; if so, I think the police ought to be in a position to manage with their old things. If these did not exist, let them wait for another year, and in the meantime this money can be devoted towards the improvement of the rural water-supply. This is the submission that I have to make, and we ought to vote against the demand.

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: It is said in the statement annexed to the budget that this expenditure on iron cots and mosquito curtains is necessary for the maintenance of an improved standard of health of the members of the police. We have listened in this Hall to-day to many glorious records of the activities of the members of the police force, and we must take it, in their present shattered conditions of health. Speaking for myself, in order to secure the safety of my own person and that of my countrymen, I am not inclined to vote for this expenditure in order to enable the police to add to their activities or to their glorious records.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: As I stated in my speech on the budget, there has been a very great deal of misapprehension and misrepresentation regarding this provision of Rs. 1,00,000 for iron cots

and mosquito curtains for the police. This is not a new policy; it is not a new provision that has been entered into the budget for the first time. The policy has been definitely undertaken from the year 1914, and it was then laid down, just before the war, that it was the duty of Government to provide their police officers, the men they take away from their homes into malarious districts and keep in dilapidated or badly constructed buildings which are neither rain, nor storm, nor wind-proof, with iron cots and mosquito curtains. It was then laid down as a policy that Government should provide their police officers in the mufassal, not in Calcutta but in the mufassal, with iron cots and mosquito curtains—the iron cots, because it was considered, from the point of view of their health, undesirable to allow them to sleep on the bare earth. It was more economical to provide iron cots, which cost about Rs. 17 each and last for years rather than bamboo charpoys which would get destroyed and would have to be replaced every few months. The iron cots were not provided for reasons of luxury but for reasons of economy. It was agreed that we should provide our police officers with something to sleep on and therefore we provided them with iron cots.

The mosquito curtains were considered necessary under the advice of the medical health officers in order to reduce the sick rate among the police force. As I explained, the sick rate of the police force is a dead loss; we have to keep up a reserve, because a very large portion of the police are constantly down with fever in certain districts and our health officers advised that the provision of mosquito curtains might keep down the sick rate and be more economical. Government accepted that policy in 1914 and provided a certain sum of money. As one member, I think Babu Manmohon Neogi, has pointed out, it is quite true that it will be recurring expenditure. The original idea was that there should be a certain fixed sum of money in the budget every year for mosquito curtains, but not for iron cots; mosquito curtains do not last very long; they last at most 3 years. The idea was to provide mosquito curtains for all thanas and to provide a recurring sum for their replacement every year. That was the policy of Government and, as I have said, it was started in 1914. Then came the War, and all expenditure was cut down. In 1916 we provided a further sum, but in 1917 it was again cut down. I think twice during the last four years—I speak subject to correction—we provided this sum. I am pretty certain that last year the Council passed this sum, but I say I have not got the exact figure before me at present. Therefore, it is not the case that Government callously and deliberately cut down the provision for water-supply in order to provide mosquito curtains and cots for the police. It is in pursuance of the policy which goes back to the year 1914 when it was initiated at the instance of the health officers. I am not prepared at all to question the fairness of the policy; I think it is a sound policy and a right policy.

The only ground, I think, on which the provision can be at all is that we have not in the past regularly provided the money and cannot afford it for the present year. That is the only point on which I think the House has any reason to attack this provision. But it cannot be said that it is merely because there is some money available this year that we have provided this sum; as I have said, we adopted the health officers' report in 1914. It is not a provision which any humane Government can cavil at. It is purely a provision for economy and health, and from that point of view I still ask the House to provide the sum. The question whether it is the right year in which to put it forward must, I admit, be decided by the opinion of the supporters of Government.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Narendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Doreda Prosad.
Dafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjee, Babu Taraknath.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Saiseowripati.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinaranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Taraifdar, Maulvi Rajo Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cooper, Mr. C. G.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.

Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Mitt Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Moberly, Mr. A. H.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 68 and the Noes 39, the motion was carried.

The following motion was not put as it was covered by the foregoing decision of the Council:—

Babu SUDARSAN CHAKRAVORTY: "That the demand of Rs. 1,00,000 for the supply of iron cots and mosquito curtains under the head '26C.- District Executive Force' be reduced by Rs. 99,999."

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 13,02,080 under the head '26C.—District Police—Contingencies' be reduced by Rs. 2,00,000."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand for Rs. 13,02,080 for contingencies under the head '26C.—District Executive Force' be reduced by Rs. 1,25,000."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 64,100 under the head '26C.—Other Police—Additional Police,' be reduced by Rs. 44,100."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,16,69,000 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force' be refused."

Babu JATINDRA NATH BASU: "That the demand of Rs. 1,16,69,000 under the head '26C.—District Executive Force' be reduced by Re. 1."

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 16,597 under the head '26D.—Special Police—House-rent and other allowances' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the

demand of Rs. 3,80,300 under the head '26D.—Special Police', be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY and Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 3,80,300 under 'Detailed Account No. 26D.—Special Police' be reduced by Rs. 2,00,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 16,980 under the head '26E.—Eastern Bengal Railway Police—European Constables' be refused."

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 10,968 under the head '26E.—Railway Police—House-rent and other allowances' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 12,900 under the head '26E.—Railway Police—East Indian Railway Police—Pay of Officers—Gazetted Staff' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 5,760 under the head '26E.—Railway Police—Assam-Bengal Railway Police—Pay of Gazetted Staff' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 17,000 under the head '26E.—Railway Police—Bengal-Nagpur Railway Police—Pay of Gazetted Staff' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 7,66,100 under the head '26E.—Railway Police' be refused."

Babu JATINDRA NATH BASU: "That the demand for Rs. 7,66,100 under the head '26E.—Railway Police' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 25,800 under the head '26F.—Criminal Investigation Department—Deputy Inspector-General' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 25,800 for the pay of Deputy Inspector General under the head '26F—Criminal Investigation Department' be reduced by Rs. 13,580."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 9,840 under the head '26F.—Criminal Investigation Department—Pay of other Gazetted Officers' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 86,880 for pay of clerks under the head '26F.—Criminal Investigation Department' be reduced by Rs. 27,472."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,85,000 under the head '26F.—Criminal Investigation Department—Temporary Force' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,85,000 under the head '26F.—Criminal Investigation Department—Pay of temporary forces' be reduced by Rs. 85,000."

Babu MONMOHAN NEOGI: "That the demand for Rs. 73,000 for travelling allowance under the head '26F.—Criminal Investigation Department' be reduced by Rs. 18,250."

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 46,000 under the head '26F.—Criminal Investigation Department—House-rent and other allowances' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 75,000 under the head "26F. Criminal Investigation Department Secret Service Money" be refused.

He addressed the House in Bengali.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I oppose it.

The motion was then put and a division take with the following result:

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boroda Prosad.
Gafer, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haldar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Joardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyandra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Naskar, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmahon.
Quadsr, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satoewripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.

Basmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nalin Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Raja Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjea, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barua, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmad Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilall Singh
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 60 and the Noes 61, the motion was lost.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 75,000 for Secret Service Money under the head '26F.—Criminal Investigation Department' be reduced by Rs. 45,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 86,000 under the head '26F.—Criminal Investigation Department' for Supplies and Service be reduced by Rs. 75,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 7,30,100 under the head '26F.—Criminal Investigation Department' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 7,30,100 under the head '26F.—Criminal Investigation Department' be reduced by Rs. 3,50,000."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand for Rs. 7,30,100 under the head '26F.—Criminal Investigation Department' be reduced by Rs. 1,60,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 70,000 under the head '26H.—Works' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: I move that the demand of Rs. 1,70,47,000 under the head "26 Police" be refused.

Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN: I beg to withdraw the same motion which stands in my name.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I oppose the motion.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Bansrjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chuadhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Heque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Joardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satoowripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.

Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. C. M.
Ferrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Hajl.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Moberly, Mr. A. H.
Moreno, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra
Nazimuddin, Khaje.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Suhrawardy, Major Hassan.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Amyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 60 and the Noes 65, the motion was lost.

The following motions were not moved as time limit on the motion under the item expired:—

Maulvi SAYEDAL HOQUE: "That the demand of Rs. 1,70,47,000 under the head '26. Police' be reduced by Rs. 85,23,500."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,70,47,000 under head '26.—Police' be reduced by Rs. 12,00,000."

Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: "That the demand for Rs. 1,70,47,000 under the head '26.—Police' be reduced by Rs. 10,47,000."

Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: "That the demand for Rs. 1,70,47,000 head "26. Police" as amended in Council be granted.

The motion was put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. C. M.
Ferrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Jones, Mr. J. A.

Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Moberly, Mr. A. H.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaje.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. H.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilal Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Suhrawardy, Major Hassan.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Willis, Mr. Arthur d'Anyers.
Wilson, Mr. R. B

NOES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Ali, Maulvi Sayyed Sultan.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chuadhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Hirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boreda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neegi, Babu Manmohon.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinirenjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shahced.
Taraifdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

The Ayes being 65 and the Noes 60, the motion was carried.

Adjournment.

The Council then adjourned to Thursday, the 27th March, 1924, at 3 P.M.

Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Government of India Act.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in the Town Hall, Calcutta, on Thursday, the 27th March, 1924, at 3 P.M.

Present:

The Hon'ble the President in the Chair, the four Hon'ble Members of the Executive Council, the two Hon'ble Ministers, and 120 nominated and elected members.

Adjournment for prayers.

Mr. PRESIDENT (the Hon'ble Mr. H. E. A. Cotton): I have received a petition signed by 31 Muhammadan members of the Council requesting me to make some arrangements for the adjournment of the Council to enable Muhammadan members to perform their afternoon prayer. As the Council are aware the House already adjourns at sunset for 15 minutes to enable Muhammadan members to perform their evening prayers. This practice was introduced by the late President and has been continued by me.

I have consulted the Leader of the House and propose from to-day to make the following arrangements:—

The hour of evening adjournment is dependent on sunset and at present the hour is approximately a quarter past six. During the rest of the session and beginning from to-day the House will adjourn for 10 minutes at a quarter to five and for 15 minutes at a quarter past six. From the month of October until the end of February the afternoon adjournment will be at 4 o'clock and will be for 10 minutes as already stated.

I desire to make it quite clear that divisions cannot be held up or the business of the Council otherwise interrupted, because members have not availed themselves of the opportunities now given to them but have selected other times for performing their devotions.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: On behalf of the Muhammadan members I thank you very much for giving us this concession.

Sir, I want to ask a question about constitutional practice. In this connection I would like to read a few lines from the Montagu-Chelmsford Report.

Mr. PRESIDENT: What is the subject about, Mr. Nurul Huq Chaudhury?

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: The subject is with regard to the effect of motions; and unless and until I read it out, I am afraid you will not be able to understand it, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Is it a point of order, Mr. Nurul Huq Chaudhury?

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I refer to page 114 of the Montagu-Chelmsford Report which states as follows:—

> We do not propose that resolutions, whether on Reserved or Transferred subjects, should be binding. The Congress League proposal to give them such authority is open to the objections which we have already pointed out. If a member of the Legislative Council wishes the Government to be constrained to take action in a particular direction it will often be open to him to bring in a Bill to effect his purpose and when Ministers become, as we intend that they should, accountable to the Legislative Council, the Council will have full means of controlling their administration by refusing them supplies or by means of votes of censure, the carrying of which, may accordance with established constitutional practice, involve their quitting office.

In this connection I moved my motion the other day that the salaries of the Ministers be refused. That really was a vote of censure on the Ministers and it was carried. Have the Ministers resigned?

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is not a matter for this Council but entirely a matter for His Excellency the Governor. I have no information to give because His Excellency has given me none.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Is it not a matter of self-respect with the Ministers?

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is not a matter for me to decide. I repeat that it is a matter for His Excellency the Governor alone to take such action as he thinks fit.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: The Ministers are present. I want to know from them whether they have resigned?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Chaudhury, there can be no discussion. My statement is quite complete. When His Excellency the Governor chooses to announce that he has called upon the Ministers to resign or that they have resigned, that will be sufficient. It is not a matter for the Council at all.

The Budget of the Government of Bengal, 1924-25.

Demands for Grants.

27.—Ports and Pilotage.

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of FINANCE (the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald): I move that a sum of Rs. 5,54,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "27.—Ports and Pilotage."

Sir, the amount of this demand is larger than it has been in previous years. Following the report of the Retrenchment Committee the Marine Department have taken charge of the launches of various officers and have brought the whole of the expenditure under this one head.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 5,00,000 under the head '27A.—Purchase of Marine Stores, etc.,' be refused."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand for Rs. 5,00,000 under the head '27.—Ports and Pilotage—27A.—Purchase of Marine stores, etc.,' be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand for Rs. 5,000 under the head '27.—Ports and Pilotage' for subsidies to steam boat companies, be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 25,000 under the head '27D.—State Yacht Establishment' be refused."

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I move that the demand of Rs. 5,54,000 under the head "27.—Ports and Pilotage" be refused.

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: I support this motion.

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: I also support this.

The motion being put a division was taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayabuddin.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjea, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Narendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.

Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Ray Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Alay, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Choinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Moreno, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaje.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.

The Ayes being 56 and the Noes 55, the motion was carried.

The following motion standing in the name of Dr. Pramathanath Banerjea being covered by the decision on the previous motion was not put:—

"That the demand of Rs. 5,54,000 under the head '27.—Ports and Pilotage' be reduced by Rs. 4,50,000."

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Faz-ul Huq): I move that a sum of Rs. 21,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "30.—Scientific Departments."

This item is made up of the following grants:—

		Rs.
(1) To the Asiatic Society	...	15,000
(2) To the Dacca Museum	...	4,900
(3) To the Varendra Research Society	...	1,200

Sir, I do not wish to take up the time of the Council unnecessarily by going into details, but I wish to offer a few words of explanation regarding these various items in the demand for grant.

As regards the Asiatic Society I may take it that the work of this learned body is well known to scholars not only in Bengal but practically throughout the world.

The grant made to it includes provision for the publication of its catalogue of Sanskrit manuscripts and for the publication of Persian and Arabic manuscripts of historical interest. Members who come from northern Bengal must know something of the valuable researches that have been carried out by the Varendra Research Society of Rajshahi, and Dacca is proud of its well-managed Museum. The demand is merely for the grants which have been paid in previous years and it would be unjust to deprive these institutions of the little assistance which Government can afford to give them and on which they rely for the maintenance of their activities.

I may remind the Council that these are grants which as His Excellency has already explained, cannot be paid if the demand for this grant is refused.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY, Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY, and Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN: "That the demand of Rs. 21,000 under the head '30.—Scientific Departments' be refused."

Babu JOGINDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVORTI: With regard to this motion which has been brought forward by the Hon'ble Minister I want to raise a question as to whether the Hon'ble Minister is entitled to bring forward any motion before the House after what had happened in the Council regarding the refusal of the Ministers' salary.

Mr. PRESIDENT: This is not in order, Jogindra Babu. I have already explained definitely that it is a matter entirely for His Excellency the Governor; and unless and until His Excellency makes an announcement to that effect the Hon'ble Minister in charge of the department is entitled to bring forward motions.

Babu JOGINDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVORTI: I ask you to consider the question whether the members of the Council may be called upon to give their votes on a question like this. Would that be quite in order?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Yes, Jogindra Babu, it is. The Hon'ble Minister remains a Minister unless and until His Excellency calls for his resignation and till then there is no question about that.

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENTS of REVENUE, IRRIGATION and EUROPEAN EDUCATION (the Hon'ble the

Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan): It is entirely a minor point. In any case even if the Ministers have to go out, they cannot go out before the new budget is introduced. We are still under the old budget.

The motion of the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq was then put and carried.

31.—Education.

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq: I move that a sum of Rs. 1,15,95,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "31.—Education." The demand that is now made represents a sum which is slightly less. The exact figure is about Rs. 2,50,000 as compared with the original voted demand for the current year and of Rs. 7,38,000 as compared with the revised estimate.

On the Reserved side the total demand is for Rs. 11,93,000. This exceeds the revised estimate for the current year by Rs. 37,000, while it is in excess of the Budget Estimate of 1923-24 by Rs. 1,27,000.

The explanation of these figures very shortly is this:—Provision for the contribution to the Government of Bihar and Orissa for the Bengal share of the Hazaribagh Reformatory was originally made on the Transferred side of the budget, but it has now been rightly placed in the Reserved side. The sum of Rs. 89,000 has therefore been added to the original budget figure for 1923-24 in the revised estimate of the Reserved side.

An emergency grant of Rs. 30,000 to La Martiniere School was made during the current year, to keep the school from approaching bankruptcy.

These two items account for Rs. 1,19,000. As against this there is a reduction of Rs. 30,000 saved under Government Secondary schools and these modifications explain practically the whole increase in the revised estimate for this year.

Turning now to the budget estimate for 1924-25, the amount provided is, as stated, in excess of the sanctioned provision for 1923-24 by Rs. 1,27,000. This is for the most part explained by the inclusion of the cost of the Hazaribagh Reformatory, Bengal's share of which is estimated during next year at Rs. 87,000. This is not a European institution, and is merely included in the Reserved side because Reformatories are a Reserved subject.

The sum of Rs. 28,000 of the increase is for a grant to St. Scholastica's Convent at Chittagong for the provision of additional class rooms

and a Kindergarten Hall. The authorities of the school guarantee Rs. 18,000 towards the cost of the scheme, and Government are providing the rest.

The sum of Rs. 10,000 is for an additional grant to La Martiniere School for repairs to buildings. The school buildings are of great age and very extensive, and financial aid is essential to enable necessary repairs to be carried out.

The sum of Rs. 4,000 is for provision of furniture and equipment for the new dormitory at Dow Hill School for Girls at Kurseong which is being built at a cost of about Rs. 2,00,000 out of the benefaction of Sir Percy Newson. The dormitory will be ready for occupation by the end of the current year and the amount included in the budget is required for provision of normal furniture for it.

The total of the four items enumerated above amounts to Rs. 1,29,000. Against this there are minor reductions under detailed heads amounting to about Rs. 2,000. The net increase, therefore, amounts to Rs. 1,27,000. Turning now to the Transferred side the demand for "Transferred voted" is Rs. 1,04,02,000, a decrease of Rs. 2,75,000 as compared with the revised and of Rs. 3,77,000 as compared with the original estimates for the current year. This decrease, however, is more apparent than real. In the first place the special grant of Rs. 3,00,000 made last year to the Calcutta University has been omitted. This, as I have already explained, is due to the fact that the amount of the grant to be given next year is still under discussion. I may tell the Council that a conference to discuss the whole question of the financial assistance to be given by Government to the Calcutta University held its first meeting on Friday last under the presidency of His Excellency the Governor. It is impossible at this stage to give any further information, but I have great hopes that this conference will lead to results satisfactory alike to Government and to the University. Then a sum of Rs. 61,000 included in the transferred demand in this year's budget is included under reserved in next year's budget. This accounts for Rs. 3,61,000.

As a result of a careful examination of the working of the department on the lines suggested by the Retrenchment Committee savings estimated at about Rs. 2,28,000 have been effected, while in other directions expenditure has increased by Rs. 2,12,000. This accounts for the remaining Rs. 16,000 of the decrease.

I do not think I need go into the details of the budget. The figures I have quoted are sufficient to show that it has been framed with all possible regard to economy. But before I resume my seat I wish to remind the members of this Council of the warning which His Excellency has given them. Whatever expenditure His Excellency may authorise, it is impossible for him to authorise the payment of grants to aided

institutions or local bodies. As examples of the grants which will not be paid I cite the following:—

	Rs.
Grants to the Universities	10,47,000
Grants to non-Government Arts colleges	3,57,000
Grants to non-Government secondary schools ..	8,44,000
Direct grants to non-Government primary schools ..	4,46,000
Grants to local bodies for primary education ..	18,00,000
Grants to non-Government special schools	3,19,000

These grants alone total almost half a crore of rupees. Is this sum to be lost to Education in Bengal? Will this Council deliberately produce chaos in our educational system? If they do, they will do it with their eyes open and the consequences will be on their heads. We at least shall have clear consciences.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: I beg to move that the demand of Rs. 1,38,330 under the head "31B.—Education Reserved—Pay of officers" be refused.

Sir, I was one of the butchers of the educational slaughter house going by the name of University and as an educationist I think I am entitled to speak with some authority on this subject as an "expert."

Mr. PRESIDENT: Do you say "butcher"?

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: Yes, Sir. My connection with the University however was not long but only for over a year. Sir, I have noticed carriages being reserved, police being reserved and various other things being reserved, but it is only here, Sir, that I hear of Education being reserved—of course for whom and by whom and for what purpose it should be reserved I do not know.

Mr. PRESIDENT: By an Act of Parliament.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: I am not a mathematician, Sir, but when the figures in respect of Education "reserved" given in the budget estimate are taken together we find that for each European and Anglo-Indian student something like Rs. 26 is spent and for every Indian student—I mean the black coloured student——

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I rise to a point of order, Sir. On an individual and specific resolution like this, should the mover be allowed to have a general discussion on European education? That is what I want your ruling about, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Yes, Maharaja Bahadur. As it saves further speeches, I think it is better that a member who wishes to speak on a

particular motion should speak on the whole subject of European Education instead of rising repeatedly to speak on individual items.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: But we shall have an opportunity of discussing the general question of European Education at the end, namely, when motion No. 724 is taken up.

Mr. PRESIDENT: We shall have an opportunity no doubt, but I look to those members who choose to make a general speech on the whole subject on a specific motion like this not to cover that ground again.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: Were we not given an opportunity of discussing the whole question of European Education at the time of the general budget discussion, Sir?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Certainly. The general discussion ranged over the whole budget of this Government, Maharaja Bahadur. But the point now is a general discussion of European Education only, which is a branch of the said budget.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: If you look up the old proceedings, Sir, European Education or any other general subject like that was discussed when the general budget discussion was taking place. What I wanted to know, Sir, was whether on a specific item like this—namely, pay of officers you were going to allow a general discussion on the whole subject of European Education.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Yes, Maharaja Bahadur. As I have said, it will save further speeches from those members who have once spoken generally. They cannot again speak on motion No. 724 which really gives us an opportunity of debating the whole question of Education "Reserved." If Hemanta Babu, for instance, now makes a general speech, I look to him to refrain from speaking on motion No. 724, although I think the temptation to do so will be great for him, his name being down on the list as one of the movers of that resolution.

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: I rise to a point of order, Sir. When an amendment is moved is it not the general rule that the amendment and the principal motion are both open to discussion?

Mr. PRESIDENT: We are not on that point now. The Maharaja Bahadur's inquiry is whether in moving an amendment the member is in order in going into a general discussion of the whole subject of which that amendment is only a branch:

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: My point of order relates exactly to the same point. My point is that when an amendment is moved the amendment and the motion to which it is an amendment are both open to discussion at the same time.

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is not the procedure that I have adopted with regard to the budget. We have a number of amendments down on the agenda paper and when they are disposed of we shall come to the main question. If you turn to motion No. 724 you will find that it is the main head and motions Nos. 688—723 are amendments to that main question. We must dispose of the amendments first and then come to No. 724. That is the procedure with regard to the budget.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: I confess, Sir, that I rather digressed and the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur was quite right when he said that I intruded into his reserved subject. I hope, Sir, he will bear with me when I confess that I know nothing of the subject. That is my difficulty. I know nothing of Education "Reserved" and I do not know what "Pay of Officers" means. That is why I want to make a general observation. I want to point out that for European Education Rs. 26 was spent upon each individual whereas some annas three only was spent for every black boy in this country.

Kumar SNIB SNEKHARESWAR RAY: On a point of order, Sir. He ought to say "per mensem."

Mr. PRESIDENT: You can both correct and rebuke him afterwards, Kumar Saheb.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: The only difference is that it is per mensem instead of per annum, but as the Hon'ble Member does not like me to speak generally on this subject any further, for I am neither a specialist in Education "Reserved", nor myself a European nor an Anglo-Indian—I am obliged to take my seat.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I am glad that the discussion has been short for this reason that I do not in any way wish to have a discussion of the general principles underlying European Education on this motion and since it is possible to allow a general discussion under another motion for the total refusal of the grant I shall not make a lengthy statement now, but I may point out to Hemanta Babu and those who have supported this motion as to what this figure stands for. This sum of Rs. 1,38,330—Pay of Officers—represents the pay of the teaching staff employed in the Victoria and Dow Hill Schools at Kurseong and if Government accepts the motion the result will be the immediate dismissal of the staff and the closing of the schools in question. These schools are directly maintained by the Government of Bengal for the children of its poorer European and Anglo-Indian officers and it is not possible for Government to neglect the

obligations they have assumed in regard to this class. This is the pay of the officers, I may repeat, employed in the Victoria and Dow Hill Schools at Kurseong, and therefore it is quite clear that the Government cannot accept the refusal proposed.

The motion of Babu Hemanta Kumar Sarkar was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Reb.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. N.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Beroda Prosad.
Gafury, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Sateswripati.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.
Saemal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Taraidar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Alay, Mr. S. Manheeb.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barten, Mr. H.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja at Ali.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chelmuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Day, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dose, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George
Gorden, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morone, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. G.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.

Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilal Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Afish Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 50 and the Noes 62, the motion was lost.

The following motions were called but not moved.

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 24,000 under the head '31B.—Education Reserved—Pay of Establishment' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 4,966 under the head '31B.—Education (Reserved)—Allowances, honoraria, etc.' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 88,600 under the head '31B.—Education Reserved—Supplies and Services' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 31,798 under the head '31B.—Education Reserved—Contingencies' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I move that the demand for Rs. 2,56,000 (recurring) for direct grants to non-Government Secondary Schools for Europeans and Anglo-Indians under the head "31B.—Education (Reserved)—Secondary" be reduced by Rs. 1,28,000.

At very outset, Sir, I am anxious to say one thing, namely, that I do not grudge any grant for the education of the Europeans and Anglo-Indians merely because the grant is for Anglo-Indian and European Education. Nothing is further from my intention than this. What I do resent however is this; that the proportion between the grant for Indian education and European and Anglo-Indian education is one to which exception can certainly be taken. I think, Sir, I am not guilty of any exaggeration whatsoever if I state that so far as the Europeans and Anglo-Indians are concerned literacy is the rule and non-literacy is the exception. On the contrary, Sir, so far as the Indians are concerned it will not be an exaggeration to say that illiteracy is the rule and literacy the exception. Having regard to the fact and also to the fact that, speaking generally, the Europeans and Anglo-Indians are financially much better off than the average Indian—in view of all these facts, I think that there should be no preferential treatment meted out to the Europeans and Anglo-Indians in respect of grants for their education. We have got to remember in this connection that the cost of education for every European

and Anglo-Indian boy is, speaking roughly, about a hundred times greater than that of every Indian boy. That being so, Sir, I think the Indians can very justly resent this disposal of money. Spare more money if you can for European education, but please do not do so at the cost of Indian education—that is our grievance. Sir, there was a time when our people did not inquire about these things as to what amount of money was spent on European education and what amount on Indian education. They had then implicit faith in the Government and they never dreamed for a moment that there was any room for any grievance in these respects, but that time is gone. Now the people are wide awake, they have begun to inquire as to how these things are being managed and the moment they know, Sir, that the average cost of education in the case of the Europeans and Anglo-Indians is a hundred times greater than the average cost of education in the case of an Indian boy, can anybody take them to task if there is a feeling of resentment amongst them? After all, Sir, the Indians are all human beings and therefore such feelings of resentment is inevitable. It is only human, it is only natural.

I know, Sir, the only point that was put forward by the Maharaja last year by way of justification of this grant—if I remember aright—was the argument of the difference in the style of living of the Europeans and Anglo-Indians and in their system of education. This is a plausible argument. If these arguments are analysed what do we find? We find that because they are very wealthy they can manage to live a better life; because we are poor we must live in a poor style. That is the main and decisive reason why more and more money must be given for their education! There is a homely vernacular proverb *Tela mathai tel dao ah*, i.e., to pour oil on an oily head. Sir, we read the other day in the newspapers a report that a very large amount of money was being raised at the present moment for maintaining these institutions for the European and Anglo-Indian boys. The other day I saw a very considerable amount of money was being raised by subscription amongst the Europeans. It is possible for them to do so for they are very rich, well-to-do and are in a position to raise money like that. Is there any reason, Sir, why more money should be spent on their education than on that of the poor Indians —the children of the soil? That is an argument which is very difficult to appreciate and I say, Sir, that the time is now gone when the people did not know these things; so we should now recast our ideas about these matters instead of going on like this as before. Otherwise the result is bound to be disastrous.

They speak of the non-co-operation movement but, Sir, if they were in our position and we in theirs, I think they would have become non-co-operators long, long ago. Therefore, Sir, in the interests of both the Indians and Europeans in this country it is necessary to make a readjustment of the amounts spent for the education of Europeans and Anglo-Indians and Indians.

Now, Sir, I am anxious to tell the House precisely what my amendment is. As it stands, Sir, the amendment is not for refusal. It is only for reduction and, Sir, according to the proportion of the grants for European and Indian education, namely, 100 times—a much greater reduction might have been equitable and well justified, but I have suggested a reduction of the grant by only half the amount. That is my amendment. Sir, and I cannot persuade myself to believe that anybody can consider my request to be excessive, and therefore, on this ground although it is a somewhat delicate matter, I think, without going into any racial question, it is only proper that this very modest amendment of mine should be accepted.

Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: I rise to support the motion which has been so ably moved by my friend Babu Akhil Chandra Datta. I think, Sir, that the reduction proposed by the mover seems to me to be a reasonable one. Taking the total amount of grants made for Indian and European and Anglo-Indian education, respectively, one cannot shut his eyes to the glaring disproportion of the grants allotted to the Indian and Anglo-Indian communities. It is needless for me to point out that the grant has been disproportionate as less than four annas per head has been allotted to Indian boys whereas the grant for European and Anglo-Indian boys is more than Rs. 26 per head. I simply ask is this justice or is it fairness? The mover of the motion referred to the last year's speech of the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, but as far as I can remember he observed this year during the budget discussion that the grant for European education was higher because the European community has been paying more to keep their educational institutions in a better state of efficiency. Of course I do not mean to say that these were the exact words that he used, but he said something to this effect. Such argument seems to suggest that certain philanthrophic European gentlemen have made munificent donations and are paying more for the cost of education of their children and, therefore, they are entitled to receive larger grants. It is true that some philanthropic Europeans have made munificent donations for the education of their children. But may I ask whether there are not Indian philanthropists who have made similar munificent donations for the education of the Indian children. Is not the Mohsin endowment a magnificent donation for education? Is not Sir Tarak Palit's donation for the Science College a magnificent endowment for scientific education? Is not Sir Rash Behari Ghose's donation of 12 lakhs for national education a magnificent endowment? Is not the endowment for the Tagore Law Lectureship a magnificent endowment for legal education? There is another fact to which I wish to refer. Look at large number of schools and colleges started all over Bengal by the Indians, and take into account the vast amount of money required for their initial cost and maintenance charges. It is also well known that the number of private schools and colleges far

exceeds that of European schools and colleges. Yet the Hon'ble Member, in justifying the higher grant for European education, did not show the same consideration to the Indians as he did to the Europeans. I therefore support the motion on the ground that the allotment of grants is disproportionate, unjust and iniquitous.

Babu ANILBARAN RAY: I may say at the beginning that I do not grudge the European and Anglo-Indian boys the facilities that have been given to them for education. I do think, Sir, that not less but more, if possible, ought to be spent on their education. As a matter of fact, Sir, I read from reports that in England the facilities for education afforded to boys and girls are much greater than here as I hope presently to show to the members in this Council. If I support this motion for reduction, it is not because I want to hurt the cause of education in the least but because it is my conviction that the system of education here is only a particular branch of a system which is really not supplying but robbing India of education. That is my idea and from that point of view and not as an antagonist or opponent of education that I support this motion for reduction. The Hon'ble Member, when introducing the budget, expected us to be keenly interested in the provisions made to meet the nation-building departments. Really, Sir, I do not know whether by this he meant to add insult to injury. The provision that has been made, viz., one crore and a few lakhs of rupees, for the education of a Province consisting of a population of 4½ crores of people—nation-building indeed! O Sir, let me give this Council some idea as to how the British people manage their own education at home, and I hope it will not be considered irrelevant if I show the arrangements they propose to make in this country and also the difference between the provisions made for the rich Anglo-Indian and European boys and the poor Indian boys. I shall take for instance, the case of London. The London County Council is the local authority responsible for promoting the general co-ordination of all forms of education within the county of London. Under this Council there are about 2,000 schools and they teach about 1 million children, and the total cost is over 9 million pounds, i.e., over £9 per head. Thus, for London only, the London County Council spends 9 million pounds or 135 millions of rupees or 13½ crores of rupees. Mr. Donald's Government proposes to spend one crore for the whole of Bengal. Sir, this is nation-building with vengeance. In London this tremendous cost on education is borne half by Government and half by the County Council. Then the Government helps the County Council not only with money but also with all sorts of suitable legislations in order to make education available to all and to perfect the system. I mention these things to show that the English people who are ruling over us know what is meant by education and what is the utility of education. I also want to show how with their knowledge of education they are providing for the education of the people whom, they say, God has entrusted to their hands. There primary

education is free and compulsory for all—not only children of normal health are given education, but every attempt is made to educate those also who are physically and mentally defective. There are in London alone 88 separate schools for these children and children to the number of 7,200 receive instruction in the mentally defective special schools, and 3,700 in the physically defective special schools and three hospitals. I quote these figures to show with what thoroughness they provide for the education of their own children and there they do not complain of the lack of funds or of means. For tuberculous and pretuberculous children the Council has provided open air schools. All the boys and girls in the elementary schools are examined by the medical officers and then they are sorted out and distributed among the various institutions mentioned before and only the healthy ones are retained in the ordinary schools. The result of this system is that no effort or expense is spared to turn out all bad material into useful stuff and at the same time good stuff is saved from contamination. Sir, this is nation-building in right earnest—do we find any such attempt made in India? So, I think when the Hon'ble Member uttered the word nation-building it seemed that it stuck in his mouth. Is it not a fact that by far the greater portion of our good stuff is allowed to rot and waste for want of proper care and bringing up? Sir, I am not at all enamoured of the Western ideas of education, but I cannot but have the greatest admiration for the thorough and unflinching manner in which they carry out their own ideas about the good of their people and my heart bleeds when we find them forgetting all those noble ideas when they come to deal with us whom they say God has entrusted to their care. If it is a trust, are they honestly carrying out that trust? Japan which has not been entrusted to the care of the British can already boast of over 90 per cent. of their people as literate, while in India after two centuries of benign British rule more then 94 per cent. of the population are not able to read and write.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Anil Babu, I am afraid I have to interrupt you. I do not follow the drift of your argument. I should like to understand what you are leading up to. Do you bring up the contribution of the London County Council towards education as a suggestion that the Bengal Government should spend 13½ crores of rupees on education? What is the relevancy of it? Unless you bring that illustration up as an argument that Rs. 13½ crores should be spent on education in Bengal, it has no relevancy.

Babu ANILBARAN RAY: I was coming to that, Sir. Perhaps it is an eternal plea that there is lack of funds. But my point is and my sincere belief is that there is no want of money in India. The Government of India are not at all poor. The Government of India have sufficient funds, but these funds are not available for the welfare of the people. That is my complaint. Sir, as you have kindly called my attention to the question of funds, let me say a few words about this question——

Mr. PRESIDENT: Anil Babu, let me point out to you that you are speaking on a motion for reduction by a sum of Rs. 1 lakh 28 thousand. That will not go very far.

Babu ANILBARAN RAY: I understand, Sir, that the question is for the reduction of the provision made for certain institutions where European and Anglo-Indian students receive their education. But, Sir, you will see that in order to deal with the question fully or in a proper manner, I think I ought to refer to some general principles, otherwise it is impossible for me to confine myself to the particular point at issue. Now, what I was pointing out was this—I was coming to the question of funds—I do not grudge the sum which has been provided for European and Anglo-Indian students. As I have said, I will support any grant for education. In England no energy or money is spared to give every child rich or poor, healthy and mentally or physically defective the blessing of education. Not only they give proper education, but as I understand from the reports, there are organisations attached to these institutions by which the students, boys and girls, after leaving the institutions are helped to secure employment. I point to these things, Sir, only to show the thoroughness with which they tackle the problem of education at home. As you know, Sir, nobody takes any notice of the thousands of our boys and youngmen who leave our schools and colleges every year and wander about for want of employment. Had the Government taken sufficient care or encouraged organisations for helping these students to find employment, I could tell you that you could have effectively checked the secret societies of which the Government is in so much dread and the assasinations and murders. I sincerely believe that if Gopinath Shah had found a suitable employment, he would not have fallen a prey to dangerous dreams. I mention all these things to show what care they take in England of every boy and girl in finding suitable employment and that is what is really nation-building. Do they take such care here? Of course, Sir, the question is of funds. I understand that more than 60 per cent. of the revenues of the country is spent on maintaining the Military Department——

Mr. PRESIDENT: You cannot go into military expenditure. We are not concerned with that at all. You must endeavour to bring yourself within the motion under discussion. You have already travelled very wide.

Babu ANILBARAN RAY: With your permission, Sir——

Mr. PRESIDENT. It is absolutely beyond the subject under discussion.

Babu ANILBARAN RAY: I accept your ruling, Sir. Coming to the question of funds, suppose the sum available is only Rs. 100 and if I point out to you that out of the sum, only rupee one is available for education and rupees 99 for other purposes and I refer to the purpose

for which that sum of Rs. 99 is spent. If that be not allowed, it is not possible for me to go into the matter. The Government of India is purposely neglecting the interests of the people and the interests of the country. What for do they maintain the military——

Mr. PRESIDENT: My difficulty is that we are not discussing the revenues of the Government of India at all. We have no concern with that. We are discussing a very simple and more modest matter—the budget of the Government of Bengal—and incidentally we are discussing a motion that a demand for a grant to non-government secondary schools be reduced by a certain sum.

Babu ANILBARAN RAY: I bow to your ruling, Sir. Suppose I take for granted that funds are available. Deshabandhu Chittaranjan Das said that he would give you 5 crores of rupees but what was the answer given to that? So, I need not quarrel about funds. The Hon'ble the Finance Member said that they had no schemes and that even if they had the money they would not be able to spend it. So, I need not quarrel about funds.

[At this stage the member reached the time-limit.]

Babu JOGENDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVORTI: The motion now before the Council seems to me to be a very modest one, and if I rise to make a few observations on this motion, it is merely for the purpose of drawing the attention of the members of this House to certain figures with regard to the provisions made for European and Anglo-Indian education generally. Sir, my friend, Babu Akhil Chandra Datta, has only moved for the reduction regarding certain grants for European and Anglo-Indian education. I may state, in the beginning, that I have no quarrel whatever with any provision that may be made for education, be it for Europeans or Anglo-Indians or for any other race; that is not the question before us. Indeed, the question of reduction or otherwise comes only when we consider the total funds that have been made available for the purpose of expenditure under the head "Education." We find from the budget figures given to us that under the head "Education" the total funds under the voted head are Rs. 1,15,95,000 and under the non-voted head Rs. 6,41,000 making a total of Rs. 1,23,36,000. Now, Sir, it cannot surely be denied that one of the foremost and the primary duties of the State is to remove the ignorance of the people as far as possible. The hon'ble members of this House will be pleased to consider whether an honest attempt is being made by the Government to discharge its primary duties. The provision with regard to education seems to my mind to be very trifling indeed, because when we look at the population of Bengal what we find is this: that the Indian population comes up to something like 47,547,482 and the European and Anglo-Indian population comes up to the figure 44,980 and the total provision made for Anglo-Indian and European education both under

the voted and non-voted heads, comes to Rs. 13,66,000, that is to say, for a population of 44,980, a provision of Rs. 13,66,000 is made; whereas for the Indian population of 47,547,482, the provision both under the voted and non-voted heads, comes up to Rs. 1,08,72,000. Anybody can work out the proportion and working it out, he will find that the expenditure per head on the Indian population for education comes to about 3 annas and 10 pies or something like it. Now, Sir, the question that is raised—and I think very forcibly raised, by looking into these figures, is whether there is or is not sufficient ground for asking the Government to make any reduction regarding these grants. Therefore, it seems to me that the motion which is now before the Council for the reduction of certain grants for European and Anglo-Indian education is undoubtedly a very modest one. The Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan has told us just now something regarding the maintenance of certain schools at Kurseong for Euorpean and Anglo-Indian education. Well, Sir, with your permission, I will just for one moment refer to the observations of the Retrenchment Committee with regard to these schools, and, in fact, European education generally. This is what the Committee say:—

We think there is a good case for the education in the hills of European children of the class for which these schools cater. On grounds of health they could not live in the plains all the year round, and to increase the fees would be to take with one hand, and to make it necessary to give with the other hand in the form of increased emoluments to the parents. We are not sure there is an equally good case for the education in the hills of Anglo-Indian children. The Kurseong schools are admittedly more expensive to maintain than schools in the plains and we feel that it is difficult to justify the larger expenditure on account of Anglo-Indian children.

We have no solution to offer, but we suggests the question should be considered.

Then, the Committee go on to other matters. The question—surely the most important question for everybody here in this Council to consider as well as for the Government to consider, is whether or not a serious curtailment is possible in the case of European and Anglo-Indian education. Sir, it is well known that ignorance is chronic in this Province. It is needless now to repeat, that the Government is not doing what it should do for the purpose of removing ignorance from the Province. One point to which I may refer in this connection is the provision that has been made for primary education and secondary education under the Transferred head in the next year's budget estimates. The figures are:—

	Rs.
Primary Education	23,34,000
Secondary ,, ...	19,32,000

That is the whole provision for imparting education to the people at large. The House can at once make out whether the provision is quite fair as compared with the provision made for Anglo-Indian and European education. I can assure the House once more that I shall be the last person

to say that any provision made for education should be curtailed under any circumstances, but at the same time, I am one of those who think that whenever any provision is made for education, it must be made on a fair basis and not upon a basis which can be said to be tending to partiality.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I support the motion of my friend Babu Ahkil Chandra Datta. During the budget discussion, I said that a very disproportionate amount had been allotted for European and Anglo-Indian education, considering the total strength of the two communities in the Province. My friend Maulvi Wahed Hossain has shown that a sum of Rs. 27 is being spent per head on Europeans and Anglo-Indians and about less than four annas on Indians for education.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Maulvi Sahib, we have heard that over and over again. Please do not repeat it.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I have no quarrel with the Europeans and Anglo-Indians if they get more money for their education, but what I plead is that the children of the soil should receive adequate consideration at the hands of the bureaucratic Government for their education. Every one of us here knows that with the growth of the income of the Province the amount that is being spent on education is becoming less and less every year. Since the Reforms have been introduced the educational expenses of the Province have been at the same figure, but the expenses in other directions are quite disproportionate and much larger than they were before. Everyone of us knows that the Europeans want more pay because they have got to keep three homes, one in the plains where they live, one in the hills, and another in England for the education of their children, and this is their plea to get more money out of the coffers of the Province. Everyone knows also that Europeans are rich and their mode of living is quite different; their average income is at least 500 times more than that of Indians, and they can spend more money on education, but that should not be the reason why, according to their strength in population, they should get more than 10 per cent. of the total educational grant of the Province. According to strength they should not get more than the Indians get. I know of Dr. Graham's Homes at Kalimpong; when Dr. Graham sends an appeal for money the European firms and other European individuals come to his help——

Mr. PRESIDENT: What has that got to do with the subject under discussion? There is a very dangerous tendency to refer to matters outside the point; you might well as talk of Eton and Harrow as refer to Dr. Graham's Homes in Kalimpong in connection with this grant——

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: But it is on European education.

Mr. PRESIDENT: They do not get any grants.

DIRECTOR of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (Mr. E. F. Oaten): They receive aid from Government.

Mr. PRESIDENT: In that case, Maulvi Sahib, you may go on.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I think we are sometimes better informed. However, I know Lord Ronaldshay as Governor of the Province used to give large grants to these Homes, but last year the amount was cut down for the Kalimpong Homes. The Europeans who reside in this country temporarily, and there are very few of them who reside permanently, excepting Anglo-Indians like Mr. Barton and Mr. Moreno, they have no right to ask the Indians to spend more money on their education, and I say this on the authority that the income that is at the disposal of the Government of Bengal is purely a provincial concern, because the amount of money the European community contributes goes mostly to the coffers of the Government of India. The income tax that is paid by the European gentlemen, the other taxes that are paid by them——

Mr. PRESIDENT: What has income tax got to do with this question? You are very wide of the question.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I am explaining why I say this. When I say——

Mr. PRESIDENT: If you are going to discuss income tax in this connection, regard should be had to the amount that is actually paid as their share by the community you are criticizing; that would have been quite relevant to the question under discussion.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: The amount that is paid to the provincial coffers by the Europeans and Anglo-Indians is very negligible, but I was going to try——

Mr. PRESIDENT: I may point out that income tax is a revenue of the Imperial Government, and you cannot raise that point in connection with this grant.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: What I meant to say was that income tax and other taxes that they pay do not come to the coffers of the Government of Bengal; therefore, whatever they pay is much less than the amount that they get from the Government of Bengal for their education. That is what I am driving at. We are told that there is no money for education. In this connection I shall cite you the example of the Congo State which is a barbarous country in the heart of Africa. Since the charge of the Congo State was assumed by the King of Belgium, education was spread even among the masses, and railways were built right into the interior of the colony and in 25 years,

to say that any provision made for education should be curtailed under any circumstances, but at the same time, I am one of those who think that whenever any provision is made for education, it must be made on a fair basis and not upon a basis which can be said to be tending to partiality.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I support the motion of my friend Babu Ahkil Chandra Datta. During the budget discussion, I said that a very disproportionate amount had been allotted for European and Anglo-Indian education, considering the total strength of the two communities in the Province. My friend Maulvi Wahed Hossain has shown that a sum of Rs. 27 is being spent per head on Europeans and Anglo-Indians and about less than four annas on Indians for education.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Maulvi Sahib, we have heard that over and over again. Please do not repeat it.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I have no quarrel with the Europeans and Anglo-Indians if they get more money for their education, but what I plead is that the children of the soil should receive adequate consideration at the hands of the bureaucratic Government for their education. Every one of us here knows that with the growth of the income of the Province the amount that is being spent on education is becoming less and less every year. Since the Reforms have been introduced the educational expenses of the Province have been at the same figure, but the expenses in other directions are quite disproportionate and much larger than they were before. Everyone of us knows that the Europeans want more pay because they have got to keep three homes, one in the plains where they live, one in the hills, and another in England for the education of their children, and this is their plea to get more money out of the coffers of the Province. Everyone knows also that Europeans are rich and their mode of living is quite different; their average income is at least 500 times more than that of Indians, and they can spend more money on education, but that should not be the reason why, according to their strength in population, they should get more than 10 per cent. of the total educational grant of the Province. According to strength they should not get more than the Indians get. I know of Dr. Graham's Homes at Kalimpong; when Dr. Graham sends an appeal for money the European firms and other European individuals come to his help——

Mr. PRESIDENT: What has that got to do with the subject under discussion? There is a very dangerous tendency to refer to matters outside the point; you might well as talk of Eton and Harrow as refer to Dr. Graham's Homes in Kalimpong in connection with this grant——

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: But it is on European education.

Mr. PRESIDENT: They do not get any grants.

DIRECTOR of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (Mr. E. F. Oaten): They receive aid from Government.

Mr. PRESIDENT: In that case, Maulvi Sahib, you may go on.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I think we are sometimes better informed. However, I know Lord Ronaldshay as Governor of the Province used to give large grants to these Homes, but last year the amount was cut down for the Kalimpong Homes. The Europeans who reside in this country temporarily, and there are very few of them who reside permanently, excepting Anglo-Indians like Mr. Barton and Mr. Moreno, they have no right to ask the Indians to spend more money on their education, and I say this on the authority that the income that is at the disposal of the Government of Bengal is purely a provincial concern, because the amount of money the European community contributes goes mostly to the coffers of the Government of India. The income tax that is paid by the European gentlemen, the other taxes that are paid by them——

Mr. PRESIDENT: What has income tax got to do with this question? You are very wide of the question.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I am explaining why I say this. When I say——

Mr. PRESIDENT: If you are going to discuss income tax in this connection, regard should be had to the amount that is actually paid as their share by the community you are criticizing; that would have been quite relevant to the question under discussion.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: The amount that is paid to the provincial coffers by the Europeans and Anglo-Indians is very negligible, but I was going to try——

Mr. PRESIDENT: I may point out that income tax is a revenue of the Imperial Government, and you cannot raise that point in connection with this grant.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: What I meant to say was that income tax and other taxes that they pay do not come to the coffers of the Government of Bengal; therefore, whatever they pay is much less than the amount that they get from the Government of Bengal for their education. That is what I am driving at. We are told that there is no money for education. In this connection I shall cite you the example of the Congo State which is a barbarous country in the heart of Africa. Since the charge of the Congo State was assumed by the King of Belgium, education was spread even among the masses, and railways were built right into the interior of the colony and in 25 years,

due to these railways, education was spread even to the most ignorant. Then take the case of the Phillipines governed by the United States of America. The United States took over charge in 1897, and now more than 50 per cent. of the population are educated, and this took the United States only 25 years. The Province of Bengal is the oldest province which came under British rule, and my district, the district of Chittagong, as well as the district of Midnapore came under the British rule from the very beginning of the British Empire. But we have been kept in ignorance as we never were before, and I can say this that before the annexation of Chittagong and Midnapore and other places from the Dewani of Bengal, we could boast of more education and enlightenment. Considering the fact that we were more educated and enlightened before the advent of British rule in the Province, the progress that we have made in education during the last century and a half is negligible. I know even if the House carries this motion that Rs. 1,28,000 be cut out of the demand for Rs. 2,56,000, it is sure to be restored by His Excellency by his power of certification, but we must say what we feel so that His Excellency might think twice before he certifies. We are after all Indians, and Indians have got hearts; they are not callous to their surroundings although according to their white masters they have neither heads nor hearts. We are often told that the English Government is carrying the black man's burden; I say rather that we are carrying the white man's burden. May we not ask the Hon'ble Member in charge whether it is due to them or due to us? We ask why is not more money provided for our own education? Cannot a portion of the police budget be curtailed, say by about 50 lakhs, and devoted to the education of the children of the soil? May we not ask the Hon'ble Member in charge of Jails and Convict Settlements to curtail some expenditure in that direction and spend it on education? Can we not ask the Hon'ble Member in charge of the General Administration to cut down a portion of the money from that demand and spend it on education? If the policy of giving Indians a thorough education in every direction had been steadily pursued, perhaps there would not have been a cry of unemployment among Indians and even among the Anglo-Indians. My friend Mr. Barton as well as Dr. Moreno the other day bitterly complained about unemployment in their community: I also make the same complaint about my community; and my Hindu friends make the self-same complaint. What is the reason? The reason is this that our masters, our Sovereign, those who bear the black man's burden, they are more responsible for this state of things than we ourselves. Taxes have increased and we are providing more money to run this irresponsible Government; we even pay taxes when we go to the theatres and cinemas; large amounts of money that are being realised as taxes in betting and other taxes. If all these amounts had been put aside for our education, then we would have thanked our rulers but such is not going to be the case with us for years to come. There

is an increased tax on litigation, that is the stamp revenue has been increased, court fees have been increased——

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have allowed you to go on for a long time, but you are now making a speech on the general discussion of the budget. If you cannot confine your speech to the subject under discussion, if you go on to discuss income tax, stamp revenue and such matters as may have been relevant to a general discussion of the budget, I must ask you to resume your seat. Please leave that line of argument, which is absolutely irrelevant, and come to the subject-matter under discussion. It is quite out of order.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I was just going to show by an illustration——

Mr. PRESIDENT: You are abusing the right of illustration. You are making a speech which deals with the whole of the budget not only of the Government of Bengal, but of the Government of India, and I rule that you are out of order.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I must say that I am not a Parliamentarian and am not so qualified as to understand this as you can do. At the same time English is not my mother tongue hence it is difficult for me to distinguish between a right illustration and abuse of illustration.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I must ask you to come to the point.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: The point is this that if more money can be found from stamps and other revenue and be set apart for the purpose of education, then the Government could not say that there was no money for the education of Indians.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I ask you, Maulvi Sahib, what has that got to do with the subject-matter of the motion which relates to the reduction of the grant to Anglo-Indian and European schools? It has nothing whatever to do with this subject. I must ask you to obey my ruling.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: What I mean to say is that if this money which is being spent in other directions can be set apart for——

[At this stage the member reached the time-limit.]

Mr. PRESIDENT: Maulvi Sahib, you have reached your time-limit; I cannot allow you to go on, and in order to enable the Muhammadan members to say their prayers, I adjourn the Council for 10 minutes.

[At this stage the Council was adjourned for 10 minutes.]

[After the adjournment.]

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I have myself been so much confused with all the arguments that the speakers on the motion for reduction have brought in, that I have found some difficulty as to the exact objection to the amount provided for in the budget for distribution. The amount is Rs. 2,56,000 for maintenance and other recurring grants to non-Government secondary schools for Europeans and Anglo-Indians.

[At this stage the Hon'ble the President left the Chamber and the Deputy President took the Chair.]

Comparisons in matters relating to schools and institutions of a different community by another community are always liable to bring in racial questions. I am, however, glad that the gentlemen who spoke did so with a gool deal of restraint on that point, but I think that my friend Babu Akhil Chandra Datta and one other gentleman who sits behind him, whose name I am afraid I do not know, both missed the point regarding the amount which is provided in the budget for this purpose. This amount is by no means a new figure, nor has it been increased to any great extent within the last few years. It is the amount which is given to well-known European institutions like the La Martiniere, St. Paul's School at Darjeeling, St. Patrick's School, Asansol, Queen's Hill School at Darjeeling, the Calcutta Girls' School, Loreto Convent, St. Joseph's School and others. It is true that some years back when Sir Henry Wheeler spoke regarding European education, the figure was a little over 10½ lakhs, but now it stands at a little over 11 lakhs——

Babu KHAGENDRA NATH GANGULY: I rise to a point of order. Is the Hon'ble Member finally replying on behalf of Government to the discussion?

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (Major Hassan Suhrawardy): Yes, the Hon'ble Member is replying on behalf of Government.

Babu KHAGENDRA NATH GANGULY: But there are others who wished to speak on this side.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I am sorry, it is too late, you cannot be allowed to speak now.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I should like my friends in all seriousness to consider as to whether it is right, as to whether it is fair to bring in a comparison of figures regarding the amount Government contributes for European education. If you look at the budget you will find that the figure is a little over 11 lakhs. If you look at the amount provided for Indian education, you will find it is over Rs. 1,15,00,000. I say these comparisons are misleading for the pure and simple reason that, apart from the arguments which I raised last time, and which I repeat again this time,

it is quite unfair to apply the population test to the method of teaching, to the method of living, and to the method of maintaining institutions meant for the education of European and Anglo-Indian children.

It is, therefore, obvious that if we were to go into such comparisons, we shall only confuse ourselves, but what is further, we are bound to bring in the racial question on the mode of living, and I, therefore, think that I would be wise not to go into that question myself any further. What I should, however, like to point out is this: that the amounts granted are really modest and I think that when the community itself puts up more than 33 lakhs for the education of its children, it is the duty of the State, so long as you have an influential community like the European and Anglo-Indian community, to give State aid, and I maintain that the State aid is by no means extravagant when we consider, as I said, the mode of living or the education imparted, the cost of the educationists who have to be drafted for the purpose as well as the class of buildings that are necessary. When all these are taken into consideration, I am sure my friends who have criticised the grant will themselves admit that there is a good deal of force in the arguments which I have advanced. Apart from the grants made to individual institutions, there is always in the budget a certain amount kept for making general grants to various institutions. I understand from the officiating Director of Public Instruction that he has unfortunately not been able to give all the details which I should have liked to place before the Council to-day that with respect to certain grants there is an established principle, whereas with respect to certain other grants we follow a general principle. I have asked the officiating Director of Public Instruction as soon as the budget is over to bring up to me the whole question to review as to what principle we should adopt in giving these grants, so as to be able to convince our friends more fully than we are able to do at the present moment the need of the continuity of these grants. But I may assure my friends that the grant is in no way extravagant and that if they were to cut down the amount provided either by half or by a quarter, it would mean the closing down of a certain number of deserving institutions, which, I am sure, neither Akhil Babu nor his supporters, would desire when they have the cause of education so much at heart. I, therefore, hope that the motion will be withdrawn, but if it not withdrawn, I on behalf of Government am unable to accept the motion.

The motion was then put and lost.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I beg to move that the demand for Rs. 58,000 for non-recurring building grants to non-Government secondary schools for Europeans and Anglo-Indians under the head "31B.—Education (Reserved)—Secondary" be refused.

We do not know either from the Green Book or from the White Book which are these secondary schools to which it is proposed to make these

building grants. My complaint is this, that in a year in which we are told on page 46 of the Green Book that as a measure of retrenchment with a view to economy, it has been decided to abolish 69 posts of teachers in Government schools, it passes my comprehension as to how it could have been decided to allot Rs. 58,000 for non-recurring building grants to non-Government secondary schools. These 69 teachers have been kicked out not because they are incompetent, not because their services are not necessary, but as a measure of retrenchment with a view to economy. I wonder, Sir, if this amount of Rs. 58,000 for these teachers has been cut out only for the purpose of making this grant of Rs. 58,000 to non-Government secondary schools for Europeans and Anglo-Indians. I say this, because I find, that by the removal of 69 teachers the saving effected was Rs. 58,000, the same amount which we find it is proposed to be granted for this purpose. In all fairness, Sir, this may be only a coincidence—I hope it is a coincidence—but the fact remains, however, that the amount is identical, and at all events I would appeal to the Hon'ble Member in charge to consider whether or not, at least for the present year, the removal of these 69 teachers of Government schools could not have been postponed, because if we do not make this grant of Rs. 58,000 for building purposes, these 69 poor men could have been retained at least for one year. The whole question is that if we confine our attention to these two items—the building grant and the removal of 69 teachers—the whole question is which is of greater urgency. I do not think anybody will seriously dispute that this grant of Rs. 58,000 for building purposes could not have been postponed for a year or two. It is not so indispensably necessary. In one case it is a question more or less of luxury, in the other it is a question of bread and butter. Therefore I think at least in consideration of this fact, if not for any other reason, this might certainly be put off for the present year. If you are very affluent next year, make a grant of double the amount if you like. In this connection may I draw the attention of the Council, and in particular of the Education Minister and of the Hon'ble Member in charge to one small fact. There is no high school for girls in Tippera. It has been proposed to raise the existing school to the status of a high school. The proposal has been hanging fire for some years for want of funds: the scheme has been approved and sanctioned, but could not be given effect to for want of funds. At last in absolute despair it was proposed that at least one class, namely, Class VIII, should be started this year. I may mention that I am a member of the managing committee, and all that was asked for in that connection was simply an additional mistress on Rs. 75 a month: that could have enabled us to start Class V: that means $75 \times 12 =$ Rs. 900 a year. Even that small thing could not be accomplished for want of funds. If that is the position, in all seriousness I ask, is it fair to make a grant like this for building purposes to non-Government secondary schools for Europeans and Anglo-Indians who, I believe, are certainly in a position, if the

amount is absolutely necessary, to raise the amount themselves? That is all my grievance, and I do not know of course, whether I have been able to make out a case for my motion being accepted. I think, under the rules, I am not permitted to make any suggestion, but if I may do so, I suggest that these 69 teachers may be retained for at least one year out of the savings which might be effected by refusing this demand.

Maulvi ABDUR RASHID KHAN spoke in Bengali in support of the motion.

[At this stage the Hon'ble the President returned to the Chair.]

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ spoke in Bengali in support of the motion.

Maulvi SAYEDAL HOQUE: I wish to support this motion on various grounds. First of all I have the reason to say that in this Province at least in education we spend more on form than on substance. It is a fact which gives me pain to think that we spend hundreds and hundreds of rupees on buildings and furniture, but we spend very little for giving real education. On this ground, perhaps, I think I am justified in supporting this motion. Moreover, I am quite at one with Akhil Babu when he says that this section of the people—Anglo-Indian and Europeans—can well manage a year or two without having new buildings. If they are so much in need of it, they may have it from their own funds. They are not so poor as we are. From another point of view I have to support this motion. The point is this. I do not raise my objection only because this sum is going to be given to Anglo-Indians and Europeans, but to me it seems that there is no principle behind the distribution of these grants. I do not know why this sort of classification should take place under one Government. Why should there be an Indian section of education and another of an Anglo-Indian and Europeans? The only justification that I can suppose for this kind of distribution or classification is one of favour which should be shown to the backward classes. I do not know whether these Anglo-Indians and Europeans are said to be, or can be taken to be, backward among Indian inhabitants. If they are not taken to be backward, then there should not be special consideration for them. I do not understand upon what basis, or what principle this kind of favouritism is going on. From this point of view I have the strongest opposition to this kind of grant. That is my second point. My third point is this. I do not know the facts, and figures are not before me—if these Anglo-Indians and Europeans pay much more to the purse of Government, but to me it seems that they are not giving more than the other sections of the population. Sir, I ask, do the Anglo-Indians pay greater amount of tax than us that they should be treated with special favours and with special privileges by Government? So I do not know why such a large amount should go to their share out of the money the major portion of which comes from those Indians who cannot manage to have their meals decently. I do not

think there is any justification for spending a farthing from the poor taxpayers' money for the benefit of these richer sections—the Anglo-Indians and Europeans.

My next point is that, if this kind of distribution is made by the Government in matters of allocation of educational grants, it has got a great demoralising effect upon the less favoured section; and the section which gets liberal treatment at the hands of Government for education of their children naturally consider themselves to be superior and those persons who are not given equal status—equal privileges and equal facilities in the same matter are bound to consider themselves to be inferior to their brother subjects. I quite fail to understand why Government should make any distinction between one class of section from another when they are all the subjects of the same Government.

Maulvi SAIYED ABDUR ROB CHAUDHURY spoke in Bengali in support of the motion.

Maulvi ASIMUDDIN AHAMAD spoke in Bengali in support of the motion, the translation of his speech is as follows:—

Sir, I shall not make any speech, there has been enough of speeches on this motion. I do not say anything inspired by jealousy or spite for the European gentlemen. I want to ask my European friends only a few questions. Do they want to teach heir children jealousy, hatred and disunion even from childhood? Do they not really want to live friends with the people of India? The Europeans and Anglo-Indians may be maintained by the atmosphere and the money of this country, but strangely enough they cannot attend the same school with Bengali boys. What is the reason why children of Europeans and Anglo-Indians cannot attend the school which may be attended even by the sons of persons of the position of the Maharajadhiraj of Burdwan and like the Hon'ble Ministers or the Members of the Executive Council? I live in a village. I have ample knowledge and experience of conditions prevailing in villages. The Lower Primary Schools in the villages have to close for want of money; the children of the village people grow up without any character for want of education and mix in various kinds of wicked company. And it is never right to grant a large sum of money for the construction of separate school buildings and other unnecessary projects for a very small number of Christian boys.

As a result of allowing European children to attend separate schools from early life and to live apart, various differences between them and the Indians are being created. I say, therefore, that if the Europeans and Anglo-Indians wish to live happily and peacefully in this country and sincerely wish to live friends with the Indians, then, separate schools for particular communities should be abolished and all people should attend the same schools. With this much I support this motion.

Dr. MOHINI MOHON DAS spoke in Bengali in support of the motion, the translation of his speech is as follows:—

At every step we are experiencing the disadvantage of the budget not having been prepared by men acceptable to the people and experienced in their wants and grievances and modes of living. With our limited knowledge and our very short experience in the Council, we cannot at all understand why time is uselessly wasted by raising such topics in the Council. Have the doors of the schools and colleges in the country been shut against Anglo-Indian and European students that separate educational institutions have to be established for them? Not only is there no glory in keeping the Anglo-Indian community distinct from the people of the country—rather if there is anything in it, it is disgrace. Because the students of this community are kept separate and educated differently, we find that they learn only to look down upon the people of the country, they regard themselves always as privileged and favoured by Government. For this reason this community give various indications of bad manners towards us on the streets or in trains and steamers. Let every one of the Indian members present in this Council, be he a Raja or a poor man, lay his hands on his breast and reflect and he will find that some day or other he was insulted by members of this arrogant and power-loving community. And yet in this very Council of ours, a demand has been put forward to provide money for the sort of education which lies at the root of such disposition on their part. It is said that their mode of livelihood is distinct from, and higher than ours, hence this arrangement. But we did not piteously implore them to come to this country; since they have kindly taken it on themselves to rule and exploit this country, and have taken the trouble to live in this country in royal style, they might show a little more favour and read in the same schools with our children. By this the conflict that now exists between the two communities may be removed by mixing together in the days of youthful simplicity. I have no wish to express hostility to any community. Let the Anglo-Indian community join shoulder to shoulder with us and march onward socially and politically; let a great nation be built up in the country. This is what we hope for. The Anglo-Indian and European communities are rich and they might provide their children with an education after their own liking. We are not in a position to provide education for the children of the soil—we have not the funds and yet our hard-earned money has to be given for these Anglo-Indian and European students! What a mockery of fate! 7·5 per cent. only of the Namasudra community to which I belong are literate, while only 3·5 per cent. of the Musalmans know how to write. It is this deplorable condition of education which lies at the root of all our miseries and yet want of funds preclude us from making any arrangements whatsoever for the education of our children and youths. There is no such provision as might be looked for to

impart education to the Hindu and Moslem working classes, but nevertheless it is their hard-earned money that goes to fill up the coffers of the Government. Ninety-five per cent. of the people of the country dwell in villages. A very small fraction of the Hindu and Musalman communities of the country are benefited by the schools, colleges and universities that are located in towns. It is impossible for the village labourers and agriculturists to derive any benefit from these institutions; for, very few of them can afford to spend Rs. 20 or 25 per month and keep their children in towns. Those of the Hindu and Moslem labourers who can provide such an education or have received it themselves constitute a separate class. Their modes of livelihood, education and culture are quite distinct from those of the Hindu and Moslem communities dwelling in villages. Those of the labouring and agricultural classes who come out with a modern education—they, too, do not form any integral part of these communities; they happen only to have been born in those communities. The agricultural and labouring classes have not been benefited by them as communities. If we are to educate the masses of this country, the present system will not prove effective. Arrangements for their education will have to be made by starting schools in every village. Owing to their poverty the children of our agricultural and labouring classes are compelled to discontinue their studies at two distinct periods in the year. Wages will have to be paid to them during those two periods and food and clothing will have to be supplied to them when at school. And if necessary for this purpose, salaries, from that of the Governor himself down to the Deputy (Collector), in this poor country will have to be cut down. Then only will the advancement, as communities, be possible of our depressed and labour classes, Hindu and Musalman, and then only will it be possible for men to get returned (to the Council) from the fields, to come here and solve their various wants and grievances and then to return to the fields. And it is these men who will be the real representatives of the people. Those of us who have come her to-day though born in the labouring or agricultural, depressed or Musalman communities—are none of them true representatives of those communities. If there is any particular community that can justly lay any claim to special pecuniary assistance, it is these depressed and working classes. They are poor and illiterate, but the Anglo-Indian or European communitiese are neither poor nor illiterate.

One word more and I have done. It will be a matter of deep regret if education is engaged to serve political purposes. In this country nothing can pass for education which does not or cannot develop the self. The education which is now imparted to serve political ends, does not develop the self and develop the man. As the outcome of it we often find that many so-called educated men do not shrink from doing many evil deeds. Before education is widely spread, we must once particularly think over this point.

Babu KHAGENDRA NATH GANGULY: I will deal very briefly with the subject, for many previous speakers have dealt very eloquently with it. I am handicapped by the want of sufficient information in the White Book, in which the estimate of Rs. 58,000 is given in one lump sum but the details are not given, that is to say we are not in a position to judge which are the schools or colleges requiring new or additional grants. In fact, the Hon'ble Member in charge has not enlightened us on the point; probably he has no desire to point out to this House what caused the budget estimate on this subject to jump up to such a big figure in the course of a year. Last year the budget estimate was Rs. 21,000 and the actual expenditure was Rs. 24,014. This year the estimate is Rs. 58,000, that is to say more than double of last year's expenditure.

Regarding the merits of the grant I have not much to say but like the previous speakers, especially Babu Akhil Chandra Datta, I want to impress that there should be no sort of distinction between education imparted to Anglo-Indians and Europeans and Indians. Let education be imparted to the Anglo-Indians and Europeans. Education is a blessing and the more it is given the better for the nation. At the same time there must be a due proportion. We, Indians, of course, do claim as a right, as children of the soil, that we should be given an adequate share or proportion of the money that is spent for education. May I inquire of the Hon'ble Member in charge what amount is ticked off for building purposes so far as the transferred side of education is concerned? I am sure that the proportion will be found to be very inadequate.

Another thing that I want to draw attention to is that wherever we go, be it Darjeeling, Kurseong or any other place we find that the school buildings and their surroundings are excellent, and full of grandeur, but what do we find in the case of Indian schools or colleges? We find a different story altogether; but it is not so much the buildings that count, it is the sort of education that is imparted there that counts. Whether the buildings are big or small or whether they are grand or magnificent or whether they are constructed on antiquated types, it does not matter much; what is effective is the sort of education imparted in them. We Indians have complained all along and we, as representatives of different constituencies, do complain that the education imparted to us is not what we ought to have, but as we said at the time of the budget discussion we have no hand in the framing of the budget. It is framed by alien gentlemen and as such the items imposed or thrust on us are items over which we have very little, if any, control. We discuss on merits, but the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur will perhaps simply say, at the end "I oppose." That finishes all arguments put forward in this House, and that again shows an absolute want of responsiveness on the part of Government. Even if we discuss on the merits, the actual merits, of a case, do we get a fair reply? Absolutely none.

One other point that I want to draw attention to is that whatever decision the House may come to, it must be fully and clearly understood

that there is no racial question involved here—absolutely none. We do not oppose this grant to Anglo-Indians on racial grounds, we do so on principle. On principle we oppose the grant and on principle I support this amendment of Babu Akhil Chandra Datta that the demand be reduced. I have nothing more to say.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Akhil Babu asks for the total refusal of this demand.

Babu KHAGENDRA NATH GANGULY: Exactly so, Sir. I also support this amendment for total refusal of this grant.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I shall take only a few minutes. I have listened very carefully to the speeches that have been made in this Council Chamber and the only argument that appeals to me with regard to the suggestion made by Babu Akhil Chandra Datta is this: That in education there should be no distinction so far as race or community is concerned. This I apply not only with regard to European and Anglo-Indian education but also with regard to Muhammadan education. I was taught in the Calcutta Medical College, where the Anglo-Indian, European, Muhammadan and Hindu students all sat and talked and were taught together, and I think that all of them were the better for it. I was waiting to hear what the Hon'ble Member in charge had to say in defence of this grant for special purposes and for a special community and I find he makes the statement that the amount granted is very modest, only Rs. 11 lakhs, considering the community itself spends nearly 33 lakhs for the education of its children. I consider that a very strong argument indeed, but when I look to the Administration Report of 1921-22 I find a statement which, I am sure, most of the members have not seen and which runs contrary to the one made in this Council Chamber. You, Sir, have made a remark in the course of discussion that better education means more taxation. I find that during the year 1921-22 the total number of students taught in the different schools in Bengal were 1,945,145; the total expenditure was Rs. 333 lakhs, of which Rs. 135 lakhs had been contributed from the provincial revenues and Rs. 182 lakhs had been contributed either by the pupils or received from endowments, subscriptions and other sources. The latter was a direct taxation, I take it, realized from the parents and guardians of the students who have been taught in the different schools. The figures in the Blue Book do not give the statement clearly. It is said that the amount of revenue under the education head in 1921-22 is Rs. 10,65,000, against which the Government, I think, is said to contribute Rs. 1,19,30,000. If you take education as a whole, you must take the total cost of education for the whole of Bengal and also find out how much has been contributed from public revenues and how much by individual communities to which the students belong. If you look from that standpoint the argument made out by the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan would

not seem to be so strong and effective as it was supposed to be at the beginning.

The next argument he brings forward is that the mode of living, the mode of education imparted, cost of educationists and the class of buildings have to be considered. I do not know whether the items under consideration refers to schools and institutions to which boardings are attached. It seems to me that we should consider the cost only of education imparted to the students and not the cost of boarding for such students. Difference in the mode of living cannot be an argument for giving more money to a particular community as against other communities.

As to the cost of education I have always looked upon this question from a different standpoint. If in education one community happens to be more advanced than another we want to improve the backward one. We want more money to be spent for the institutions meant for the less advanced boys because it is more difficult to teach infants and small boys; it is more difficult to get teachers for the primary schools than to get teachers for higher grade schools. Not only must the teachers of primary schools possess the qualification of teaching a particular subject but also be able to impress it on the little boys so as to form their character at an impressionable age.

Therefore, the mode of living and the cost of education imparted cannot be a sufficient argument for giving a disproportionately higher grant to the European community as against other communities. I have always maintained and shall maintain that we have made a fetish of buildings for institutions. There is my college, I mean the Belgatchia Medical College, and the Calcutta Medical College; I maintain that the difference in the length and breadth of glass panes in the different laboratories and in the size of rooms and the number of electric fans make no difference as regards the teaching imparted by teachers to students. I hope the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan in his reply to this amendment will meet these points and give us convincing arguments. He has promised that as soon as the budget is finished he will take the matter up thoroughly, and solve the problem and put the whole situation in such a form that we shall have no difficulty in understanding the budget in future years.

[At this stage the Council was adjourned for 15 minutes.]

[After the adjournment.]

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I move that the demand for Rs. 2,56,000 having been granted it follows as a matter of course that funds must be provided from time to time for the building fund for the repair of the buildings of those institutions to which direct grants are made by Government. It is true, Sir, that last year we spent about Rs. 27,000 under this head.

The reason why we have provided for Rs. 58,000 this year is as follows: We have had to provide Rs. 10,000 for a grant to the La Martiniere School for repairs to the building and if I recollect aright the Hon'ble Maulvi Fazl-ul Huq in the course of his remarks when introducing the Education budget mentioned about these grants. Then we have had to provide Rs. 28,000 as grant to the Scholastica Convent at Chittagong for the construction of a Kindergarten Hall and additional class rooms. This has been hanging fire for many years and now it has become very necessary for the maintenance of the Convent School to construct the hall and additional class rooms. If we deduct these Rs. 38,000 we get the balance of Rs. 20,000 which is the sum annually provided for repairs and the maintenance of the buildings. I do not mean to go into an irrelevant general discussion as you permitted some of the members, Sir, to indulge in, and I hope I have explained clearly to the mover Babu Akhil Chandra Datta how the figures have been made up and that they are not extravagant. I hope that Akhil Babu will see his way to withdraw the motion in view of the facts that I have given. As for Government they are unable to accept it.

The motion was put and lost.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I beg to move that the demand for Rs. 3,000 for furniture and equipment grants to non-Government secondary schools for Europeans and Anglo-Indians under the head "31B.—Education (Reserved)—Secondary" be refused.

It is a very small grant but I move my amendment on a question of principle which I have explained in moving the two previous amendments.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I do not know, Sir, what the principle is, but when the schools under "Education Transferred" get their furniture grant I do not see why the schools for the Europeans and Anglo-Indians should not get it. Akhil Babu will perhaps see that he is rather petty-minded in refusing this grant.

The motion was put and lost.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 3,17,000 under the head '31B.—Education Reserved—Direct Grants to non-Government Secondary Schools' be refused."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 3,17,000 under 'Detailed Account No. 31B.—Education (Reserved)—Secondary for European and Anglo-Indian Education' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I move that the demand for Rs. 3,00,000 for recurring grants to non-Government Primary Schools for Europeans and Anglo-Indians under the head "31C.—Education (Reserved)—Primary" be reduced by Rs. 2,25,000.

I need only point out that the motion is for reduction and therefore it goes on its merits. I do not like to add to what I have already said in connection with the other motions, but I will only say one word, about the observation of the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur that in moving my last amendment I was actuated by something like petty-mindedness.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You cannot go into that now. You have been sufficiently long in public life, Akhil Babu, not to heed such observations.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: Then I resume my seat.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I have nothing more to add, Sir.

The motion was then put and lost.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I move that the demand for Rs. 99,000 for "other grants" to non-Government Primary Schools for Europeans and Anglo-Indians under the head "31C.—Education (Reserved)—Primary" be refused.

In moving this amendment I should like to say only this: that we are not told either in the Blue Book or in the White Book what these "other grants" are for. We are kept absolutely in the dark about such a huge amount as Rs. 99,000. In the Paper Book, Sir, the objects for which such small amounts as Rs. 2,000, Rs. 3,000, Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 10,000 are budgeted are specifically mentioned, but here although the amount is Rs. 99,000 we are not told what these "other grants" are intended for. I do not think that the Government of the present day is unaware of the fact that the people have not very much faith in them. They had faith in the Government once, but that faith they have now lost. It is unnecessary to go into the reason why they have lost that faith. Everybody knows it. The Government, therefore, owe it to themselves to take the people into its confidence and tell them what these "other grants" are. Whenever a procedure like this is adopted, namely, things are kept in the dark it endangers a shrewd suspicion in the mind of the people that it is a grant about which Government cannot make out a case. And having regard to the view taken by the people as to the manner in which the budget is framed, as to how the money is spent against the express wishes of the people, as to how the people's wishes are disregarded—in view of all these facts—nobody can take them to task if they feel a suspicion that something is wrong somewhere, some screw loose somewhere, as to why it is that the reason for this demand of "other grants" is not mentioned. At any rate whether there is any justification for this suspicion or not——. You may laugh, Sir,——

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am trying to discover the relevancy of your argument to the present discussion.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: This suspicion is not wholly irrelevant, Sir, in as much as it determines their conduct. I repeat, Sir, that there must be some screw loose somewhere, otherwise we should have been enlightened about the necessity of this grant. It is these things that make the people lose their faith in the Government. They must tell us clearly and plainly why they ask for this grant. They may laugh, but laughing will not solve the problem. It is the laugh of irresponsible people. That is the whole thing. (A VOICE: Laughing is catching.) My friend, Babu Jogindra Chandra Chakravorti, says that laughing is catching, Sir, he laughs best who laughs last. (A VOICE: He laughs best who does not laugh at all.) I do not know, Sir, if there is anybody who does not laugh at all. He must either be a God or something other than a human being. It is an attribute of human nature to laugh. I do not know, Sir, who will laugh last. There is no knowing who in this struggle for freedom on one side of which there are the people, and on the other side of which there are the framers of the budget, namely, the bureaucracy, will sin in the end. Nobody knows except God alone as to who will come out victorious.

I hope Sir, we, namely the people, will come out victorious. I have faith in the righteousness and the justice of our cause. Therefore, I am quite sure that the time is not far distant when Government will find it impossible to keep the people in the dark in regard to the disposal of their own money.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: In supporting the motion of my friend Babu Akhil Chandra Datta I wish to point out to the House that by no responsible Government is a grant asked in this vague way without giving any particular showing the reason as to why the demand is made. A very large sum of money is asked for and we are not told what it is wanted for. Is it for the introduction of the C. I. D. system in the schools and colleges? I do not know. It is an outrage and insult to the intelligence of the House to come up to them with items like these in your budget estimate saying "for other grants let us have so much money, but we won't tell you what it is for!" It is not a very small sum. There are thousands of villages in Bengal where small Primary Education Schools, if established with the amount asked for, would do an enormous amount of good. Instead of doing that we are asked to give you such a huge amount of money as Rs. 99,000 on trust without being told how you intend spending it. You say "trust us to spend it right enough for you". Sir, if it were a responsible Government and if the Hon'ble Member in charge who demanded this grant were responsible to the people instead of, to his employers, he would not have ventured to bring forward such an item like this. I am perfectly sure that unless the House chooses to vote

slavishly at the bidding of Government every responsible member of this House will vote against the demand and for the motion.

Mr. E. F. OATEN: I am asked by the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur to explain this point. I have already sent two letters to Babu Akhil Chandra Datta explaining the facts. If the members of the House will turn to page 111 of the Budget Estimate they will see that the figure Rs. 99,000 was not shown separately last year; they will find that the total demand was Rs. 3,99,000, not separated, but together, all in one lump sum and described as recurring. This year a change has been made in the budget not by us, not by the department, but by the Accountant-General. He has shown the same figure Rs. 3,99,000 under two heads; he has called three lakhs of it recurring and Rs. 99,000 for "other grants" he described as non-recurring. There is no mystery or no screw loose anywhere about these "other grants." They were last year included in the total of the demand for Rs. 3,99,000 which I repeat is a recurring grant and not non-recurring, as shown in the budget. The figure Rs. 3,99,000 is made up of the following grants:

		Rs.
Fixed maintenance grant	...	53,000
Attendance grant	...	97,000
Salary grant	...	1,00,000
Free boarding grant	...	1,46,000
Cadet grant	...	3,000

It is impossible for me to tell you exactly what this sum of Rs. 99,000 taken separately includes (hear, hear), because I cannot dissociate it from the total of Rs. 3,99,000. I have written twice, as I have said before, to Babu Akhil Chandra Datta giving him a brief statement of the facts and if he will call upon the Accountant-General, Bengal, he can ascertain exactly how the Rs. 99,000 is allocated. I repeat that there is nothing concealed about these grants.

The Accountant-General divided them in this manner, because he said that judging from the Government letters sanctioning the grants, some of the grants seemed to him to be recurring and some non-recurring. In other words, he thought that Rs. 99,000 of the grant would require to be sanctioned year by year by Government letters, whereas three lakhs of it seemed to be recurring and sanctioned permanently. This is a simple explanation of the somewhat mysterious "other grants", Rs. 99,000 put in the budget for the next financial year. I hope that this explanation will satisfy Babu Akhil Chandra Datta and the other critics of this figure. (A VOICE: Not satisfied.) If it does not, then I would simply suggest that he should pay a visit to the Accountant-General's office and find out how it is to be spent.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I have only to add one word to what Mr. Oaten has said. He has explained at length how the Accountant-General has divided up the amount, Rs. 3,99,000 under two heads. But we cannot get away from the fact as to what this sum of Rs. 99,000 is for. It is for the Government aid to the primary education of Europeans and Anglo-Indians, and as such it cannot be abandoned, whether it appears under one head or two heads. For that reason, I must ask for the whole grant and cannot agree to any reduction.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Bagchi, Babu Remes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chuadhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Soreda Prasad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mehi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Sidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinikanjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Taraidar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Atey, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chainuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dosa, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Churnavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prasad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.

Marr, Mr. A.
Maulik, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mittra, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. H.
Morane, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. G.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pakhowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Ross, Mr. G. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilal Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Suhrawardy, Major Hassan.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Wilson, Mr. R. S.

The Ayes being 58 and the Noes 57, the motion was carried.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 3,99,000 under the head '31C.- Education Reserved Primary—Europeans and Anglo-Indian Education' be refused."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 3,99,000 under 'Detailed Account No. 31C. Education (Reserved) Primary for European and Anglo-Indian Education' be reduced by Re. 1."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 14,400 under the head "31E.—Education (Reserved)—General Inspection—Pay of Inspector" be refused.

He delivered a speech in Bengali in support of his motion.

Dr. Pramathanath Banerjea rose in his place in support of the motion but made no speech.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I have nothing to say in reply. So long as there is European education as a separate item, we must have an Inspector to control and report on that education.

The motion was then put and lost.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 14,400 for pay of Inspectors for European and Anglo-Indian Education under the head '31E.—Education (Reserved)—General' be reduced by Rs. 4,800."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I move that the demand for Rs. 1,295 for house-rent and other allowances to Inspector (European and Anglo-Indian Education) under the head "31E.—Education (Reserved)—General' be refused.

Sir, the amount is very small, but I move it because as a matter of principle there is no reason why house-rent should be paid to these Inspectors. They are not very badly paid officers.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: House-rents are paid to all Imperial Officers. As Mr. Papworth is an officer of the Indian Educational Service, now stationed in Calcutta, he is entitled to this house-rent, and there is no reason why this concession should be withdrawn from him. So long as the question of house-rent for Imperial officers stands, I must oppose the motion.

The motion was then put and lost.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I move that the demand for Rs. 30,500 for scholarships in secondary schools for Europeans and Anglo-Indians under the head "31E.—Education (Reserved)—General" be reduced by Rs. 15,250.

I have already explained my reasons, Sir.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: It is so obvious that this motion is intended to cut at the very root of European education that I must oppose it.

The motion was then put and lost.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 38,000 under the head '31E.—Education (Reserved)—General—Scholarships for European and Anglo-Indian Education" be reduced by

He addressed the House in Bengali.

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I have nothing to add to what I have already said.

The motion was then put and lost.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,64,000 under the head '31E.—Education (Reserved) General,' be refused."

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 11,93,000 under the head '31.—Education (Reserved),' be refused."

Babu HEM CHANDRA NASKER: I move that the demand of Rs. 32,000 for non-recurring grant to the Calcutta University under the head "31A.—Education—Grants to Universities" be reduced by Re. 1.

The object of this amendment is to invite a debate on this matter. The Calcutta University, the premier University in India, is offered the handsome grant of Rs. 32,000 for the promotion of higher education in

the whole of the Presidency. Is higher education for Bengal not worth the price of the mosquito curtains for police constables? The administrations of the affairs of the Calcutta University might have been faulty but that is no reason why sufficient funds will not be provided for the upkeep of the institution and not for extending its activities.

By agreement with the late Rash Behari Ghosh the Calcutta University is bound to provide laboratories to the Science College. The University has not yet been able to provide such a laboratory to its satisfaction and requirement and the reason is want of funds. Is it not the duty of the Government to give proper facilities to the innumerable number of students desirous of devoting their lives to the study of scientific researches? But instead of meeting the legitimate demands the Government is reluctant to even supplement the princely charities made by Sir Tarak Nath Palit and Sir Rash Behari Ghosh, and to remove the crying need of the student community.

I confess, Sir, I cannot understand the sense of proportion of the Government. The country is demanding for the imparting of scientific education, the Government is providing with enormous funds to the glorified arts college at Dacca called the Dacca University and for a new arts college at Calcutta for which there is absolutely no demand. I know for certain, and I can assure the Hon'ble Minister in charge that there are enough seats in almost all the colleges in Calcutta to accommodate arts students.

We are told that in the supplementary budget further sums will be provided for the Calcutta University, but I cannot understand why it is not provided in this budget. We want a definite answer from the Hon'ble the Minister when such demand will be made and the amount of the demand. I insist that the demand should not, in any case, be less than Rs. 5,00,000.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: The hon'ble mover, I submit, has not convinced me that there is any reason why the grant should be reduced by Re. 1. Whatever his object may be, I may briefly explain to him that this sum of Rs. 32,000 is composed of the following items. Rs. 16,000 is a payment due to the University on account of post-graduate teaching. By arrangement with the University a certain amount of post-graduate teaching is done in the Presidency College by the professors and lecturers of that institution. The students pay their fees to the Presidency College while the University pays Government for the services of the lecturers. The University have recently intimated to Government their inability to continue to make payments for the services of the professors and lecturers and the whole scheme will shortly come under reconsideration. For the present, however, it is necessary to provide in the budget the Rs. 16,000 due to the University on account of the fees paid by the post-graduate students.

The sum of Rs. 13,000 is paid annually to the University to assist it in running the scheme by which it rents a number of houses for use as students' messes. Of this sum, Rs. 9,000 is intended to help to meet the deficit between the rent paid by the University for the houses and the seat-rents realized for the students. The balance is for an Inspector of students' messes and his establishment.

There remains a balance of Rs. 3,000 which is paid to the University to enable it to run messes for the benefit of students of the depressed classes.

Government recognize that it is desirable that all these messes should ultimately become self-supporting. But for the present, they feel that if the full cost were realized from the students, many of the residents would be compelled to leave the messes and seek private lodgings possibly in undesirable and insanitary surroundings.

I hope that in view of the explanation I have given, the mover will withdraw this motion. All these three items are essentially necessary.

The motion was then, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu MONMOHAN NEOGI: "That the demand for the recurring grant of Rs. 5,00,000 to the Dacca University under the head '31A.—Education (Transferred) University,' be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

Babu HEM CHANDRA NASKER: "That the demand of Rs. 4,00,000 for non-recurring grant to the Dacca University under the head '31A.—Education—Grants to Universities,' be reduced by Rs. 3,00,000."

Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY and Mr. TARIT BHUSAN ROY: "That the demand of Rs. 9,00,000 under the head '31A.—Education—Grants to Dacca University,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 11,61,000 under the head '31A.—Education (Transferred)—University—Government Arts Colleges,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 5,000 for building grants to non-Government Arts Colleges under the head '31A.—Education (Transferred)—University,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I move that the demand for Rs. 1,52,000 for "other grants" to non-Government Arts Colleges under the head "31A.—Education (Transferred)—University," be refused.

In support of this motion I wish to say two things. In the first place, I may point out that this grant does relate to the European and Anglo-Indian education; therefore nobody should, in fairness, suggest that the

other amendments were actuated by any racial feeling. I am moving this amendment as much as I have moved the other ones. In the second place, I may say that this is another grant of Rs. 1,52,000 which is put in the delightfully vague manner, viz., "other grants", without taking us into confident as to what the other grants are. Now, I wish only to say: Do you expect us to give our assent to this grant? Do you expect us to do so without exercising our judgment over it? Can we, as responsible men, give our assent to the grant of a huge amount without knowing what the grant is for? We should at least be given some idea as to what these grants are. As regards going to the Accountant-General, Bengal, I do not know whether things should be managed in this way. The budget is quite silent over it and does not give us any idea. Even after I moved the other amendment, we have not been vouchsafed any light. I moved that amendment and the Hon'ble Member in charge as well as the Director of Public Instruction gave us advice gratis that we should go to the Accountant-General, Bengal, and find out what these grants are. That is a procedure which does not commend itself to us. Therefore, I oppose this grant and move this amendment.

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: I agree with my friend, Babu Akhil Chandra Datta, that the information supplied here is very inadequate, but so far as I know this item, viz., other grants include the equipment grant given to colleges, grant for laboratories and also for hostels. But these items should be clearly mentioned in the budget. I hope, however, that my friend will withdraw this amendment.

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: With regard to this matter, I wish to place some information at the disposal of Babu Akhil Chandra Datta. This amount has been placed at the disposal of the Calcutta University in the last few years for distribution to the different colleges on account of library and laboratory, and the colleges are very largely profited by the grant of this money. I would therefore appeal to Babu Akhil Chandra Datta to withdraw this amendment.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: In view of the information that has been supplied to me by Dr. Banerjea, I feel inclined to withdraw the motion. Sir, we are not perverse——

Mr. PRESIDENT: No more, please, Akhil Babu, if you are asking for permission to withdraw the motion. I shall now ask the leave of the Council to withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 3,57,000 under the head '31A.—Education (Transferred)—University—Grants to non-Government Arts Colleges,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 2,44,000 under the head '31A.—Education (Transferred)—University—Bengal Engineering College, Sibpur,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand of Rs. 90,000 under the head '31A.—Education (Transferred)—University—Training Colleges for Teachers,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I move that the demand for Rs. 70,000 for building grants to non-Government secondary schools under the head "31B.—Education (Transferred)—Secondary" be refused.

Here, again I oppose this grant because I find that this year 69 teachers have been kicked out of the service for effecting a saving of Rs. 58,000. The grant is for Rs. 70,000, and I may also point out that in moving this amendment I am not actuated by any racial considerations or petty-mindedness.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZ-UL HUQ: Within the brief time at my disposal, I can only say that this demand for Rs. 79,000 is the total amount which Government pays for non-Government institutions throughout the Province, and I hope the hon'ble mover will realise the necessity for this small grant.

The motion was then put and lost.

Adjournment.

The Council was then adjourned till 3 P.M. on Friday, the 28th March, 1924, at the Town Hall, Calcutta.

Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council assembled under the provisions of the Government of India Act.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in the Town Hall, Calcutta, on Friday, the 28th March, 1924, at 3 P.M.

Present:

The Hon'ble the President in the Chair, the four Hon'ble Members of the Executive Council, the two Hon'ble Ministers, and 120 nominated and elected members.

Council meetings.

Mr. PRESIDENT (the Hon'ble Mr. H. E. A. Cotton): Order, Order. The Council will meet on Saturday at 10-30 A.M., and will continue to sit till 1-30 P.M. under orders of His Excellency, for the purpose of taking up the supplementary grants of which the Council had notice on the papers that had been circulated. On Monday at 3 o'clock the Council will continue the discussion of the supplementary grants until they are finished. The remainder of the budget will be taken up on Tuesday at 3 o'clock.

Budget of the Government of Bengal, 1924-25.

Demands for grants.

31.—Education.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 7,000 for furniture and equipment grants to non-Government secondary schools under the head '31B.—Education (Transferred)—Secondary,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 19,32,000 under the head '31B.—Education (Transferred)—Secondary,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 23,04,000 under the head '31C.—Education (Transferred)—Primary, be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 1,48,000 under the head '31D.—Training Schools' be reduced by Rs. 1,25,000."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY and Babu MONMOHAN NEOGI: "That the demand of Rs. 4,06,000 for Guru Training Schools under the head '31 D.—Education (Transferred)—Special' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 12,91,000 under the head '31D.—Education (Transferred)—Special' be refused."

Babu MANMOHON NEOGI: I move that the demand of Rs. 7,46,900 under the head "31E.—Education—General—Inspection—Salaries" be reduced by Rs. 6,35,400.

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq): I will be very brief in my reply because the hon'ble member who has moved for such a substantial reduction in the salaries of the inspecting staff has not given us any reason for suggesting this reduction. The one or two points that I can submit to this Council are briefly these. This motion challenges the necessity for the maintenance of the inspecting agency as it stands to-day. More than a crore of rupees are distributed by the agency which consists of 392 officers now, but which will, in accordance with the Government orders directing the gradual abolition of the posts of Assistant Sub-Inspectors, be ultimately reduced to 365 officers only.

The Divisional staffs, which consist of 33 officers now, including the 5 Special Assistant Inspectors of Schools for Muhammadan Education, have to control and supervise 2,678 secondary schools and the District inspecting agency, consisting of 359 officers, have to control and supervise 47,904 primary and training schools. The assessment of grants is not the only business of an Inspector. Not only has he to inspect the schools under his charge, but he has to guide the teachers by giving demonstration lessons. He has to advise District and Municipal Boards, to do propaganda work, to help to establish schools in unschooled areas, and to give expert advice to anyone who needs it. To do away with the expenditure for the maintenance of the inspecting agency is to strike at the very root of education itself. Government orders on the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee recognised the value of the inspectorate. The Committee suggested the abolition of second Inspectors, Special Assistant Inspectors for Muhammadan Education and Sub-Inspectors' posts. Government after careful consideration of those recommendations reduced the number of Sub-Inspectors of Schools by 25 only. Any large reduction in the inspecting staff, such as is suggested, will impair the efficiency of the system.

I have heard it said, Sir, that so far as the inspecting staff is concerned, the work that is necessary can be done by a much reduced staff. I myself had that idea and am prepared to sympathise with the object which the hon'ble member has in view in proposing that reduction, but I doubt if a substantial reduction of this kind can be properly accepted by Government without impairing efficiency. I can only say that holding the opinion myself that a substantial reduction in the cost of the inspecting staff is not only possible but desirable, I am prepared to consider the question entirely on its merits and I can promise that as thorough an examination as is possible will be given. If that will satisfy my friend, I hope he will withdraw his motion. I heartily sympathise with the object he has in view, but as it stands, I think, I must oppose the motion.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Doreda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. M.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedul.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jaardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Nabi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohan.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abasish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Ray, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Ray, Mr. D. N.
Ray, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinirenjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Raja Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Alley, Mr. S. Habibeck.
Barton, Mr. H.
Bag, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chotuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Choudhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dutt, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. G. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faraqui, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.

Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Prevash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rosa, Mr. G. P.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Bukah.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.

The Ayes being 57 and the Noes 51, the motion was carried.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu MONMOHAN NEOGI: "That the demand of Rs. 1,80,000 for travelling allowance under the head '31E.—Education (Transfered)—General Inspection—Allowances' be reduced by Rs. 1,52,500."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 11,38,000 under the head '31E.—Inspection' be reduced by Rs. 6,00,000."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 3,000 under 'Detailed Account No. 31E.—for Zenana Education' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 19,18,000 under the head '31E.—Education (Transferred)—General' be refused."

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY, Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY and Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN: "That the demand of Rs. 1,04,02,000 under the head '31.—Education (Transferred)' be refused."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand for Rs. 1,15,95,000 under the head '31.—Education' be reduced by Re. 1."

The motion of Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq, under the head "31.—Education," as amended in Council, was then put and agreed to.

32.—Medical.

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT [MEDICAL] (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq): I move

that a sum Rs. 47,18,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "32.—Medical."

I would in the first place point out that this sum represents a distinct advance on last year's budget figure of Rs. 44,10,000 by no less than Rs. 3,08,000. Under the head "Medical Establishment" we are providing as usual for the pay of the superintending staff and of the Civil Surgeons and Subdivisional Medical Officers. The proposed expenditure under this head is Rs. 5,88,000 which is practically same as the actuals of 1922-23, viz., Rs. 5,87,561. It will be seen, therefore, that we are not exceeding the last two years' expenditure on the administrative medical staff.

Under the head "Hospitals and Dispensaries" the proposed expenditure is Rs. 20,79,000 as against the actuals of Rs. 21,54,000 of 1922-23. The reduction in expenditure as compared to two years ago is due to the carrying out of retrenchment in connection with the Presidency Hospitals and other hospitals which are directly under Government management. This retrenchment has been of such a thorough nature that the total expenditure remains below that of 1922-23 in spite of the fact that we have provided an additional sum of Rs. 1 lakh for the opening of rural dispensaries and a sum of Rs. 25,000 for a special grant to private hospitals. I would invite the Council's special attention to the provision of Rs. 1,15,000 in the budget for the opening of rural dispensaries. It is proposed to repeat the sum of one lakh in the two following years as well. It is a matter for congratulation that it has been possible to find this sum in this year's budget in place of the meagre amount of Rs. 15,000 only which was provided in the budget of the present year and of the last year under this head. The sum which we propose to grant is to enable the district boards to open no less than 400 village dispensaries during the next year and to maintain the 32 new dispensaries which were opened by them during the last two years with the sum of Rs. 15,000 which was provided during those two years. It is proposed to repeat the annual grant of Rs. 50,000 to the Belgachia Hospital and grants varying from Rs. 16,000 to Rs. 38,000 to the Mayo Hospital, Howrah General Hospital, and the Lady Dufferin Zenana Hospital. It is also proposed to repeat the grant of Rs. 17,000 to the Leper Asylums at Raniganj and Bankura maintained by the Mission to Lepers and Rs. 20,000 as an emergecy grant for epidemics. A provision has also been made for the annual recurring grant of Rs. 28,000 for assisting no less than 66 local fund and private dispensaries in the mufassal.

Under the head "Grants for medical purposes" a provision has been made for Rs. 1,42,000 as against the same provision made in the present year's budget. This provision includes grants for the training of *dhais* and nurses at the Eden Hospital, the Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Institution, the Lady Minto Nursing Association, the Lady Canning Home for training of nurses and to the Council of Medical Registration and the

State Medical Faculty and to the Elliot Hostel for female students for the Campbell Medical School.

In view of the strictures which have been passed by several members of the Council in connection with the grants to the nursing establishments it should be pointed out that Government are doing no more in this direction than merely subsidising private organisations which are mainly responsible for the training and maintenance of nurses who supply the needs of the various hospitals in Calcutta and also of the general public. The proposed grant of Rs. 1 lakh to the Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Institution only supplements a sum of over Rs. 2 lakhs raised by the Institution from voluntary subscriptions and from contributions from local bodies and other organisations. It is not possible to make any reduction in these grants without depriving the Calcutta hospitals entirely of the services of nurses.

Under the head "Medical Schools and Colleges" a provision is being made for Rs. 7,75,000 for the upkeep of the Calcutta Medical College, the School of Tropical Medicine, the Campbell Medical Schools and the Medical Schools at Dacca and Burdwan. A provision has also been made for Rs. 22,000 for opening the Mymensingh Medical School in July next.

The large grant of Rs. 9,87,000 under the head "Lunatic Asylums" requires explanation. It includes the ordinary maintenance charges of the lunatic asylums at Berhampore and Dacca. Out of the total amount Rs. 7,33,000 represent this Government's share of the capital cost for the construction of a Central Mental Hospital at Ranchi for the Indian lunatics. Buildings for this Central Mental Hospital have been partially completed and it is urgently necessary to provide this amount in order that the institution may be opened from the 1st of April, 1925. The opening of this new hospital is, I may explain, necessary in order to provide up-to-date treatment for the Indian lunatics so as to give them a fairer chance of recovery and more humane treatment than is provided in the present system of lunatics asylums which has been strongly condemned by modern medical opinion.

A provision has also been made for Rs. 15,000 for the purpose of opening a new Observation Ward for the Indian mental patients. This is a very urgent scheme as Indian lunatics under observation are at present accommodated in jails which is an objectionable practice and the opening of this institution will remove this defect.

Under the head "Chemical Examiner's Department" provision has been made for Rs. 48,000 as against the actual expenditure of Rs. 61,000 in the year 1922-23. The reduction is due to retrenchment.

The Council will undoubtedly be pleased to learn that it is proposed to open a new Pasteur Institute at Calcutta from April next so as to provide for a complete arrangement for anti-rabic treatment including preparation of vaccine in Calcutta. This will obviate the necessity of persons bitten by rabid dogs making a journey to Shillong or Kasauli. A

provision of Rs. 35,000 is being made for the purpose of opening this institution and this represents a saving of Rs. 7,000 to Rs. 8,000 in the annual contribution which this Government have at present to pay towards the maintenance of the Shillong Pasteur Institute.

If the Council will pardon me, I will take this opportunity, as I did yesterday, of pointing out some of the grants which cannot be restored by His Excellency in case the Council determines to throw out the entire Medical budget. Among such grants are these:—

Grants to local funds and private institutions.

	Rs.
(1) Grant for the opening of rural dispensaries .. (This is provided, as I have already said, for the opening of 400 new village dispensaries in the mufassal.)	1,15,000
(2) Annual grant to the Carmichael College and Belgachia Hospital	50,000
(3) Grant to the Mayo Hospital	38,700
(4) Grant to the Howrah General Hospital	17,800
(5) Grant to the Zenna Hospital	16,800
(6) Grant to Leper Asylums at Raniganj and Bankura	17,000
(7) Annual maintenance grants to 66 local funds and private dispensaries aggregating	28,289
(8) Special grants for private Hospitals	25,000
(9) Emergency grant for Epidemics	20,000

Besides these there are other grants about which I need not go into details now, and I hope the Council will be pleased to consider very seriously the consequences of the reduction of these grants.

With these few words, I beg to move for this demand.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 52,000 under the head '32A.—Medical Establishment—Superintendence,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 1,28,400 under the head '32A.—Medical Establishment—District Medical Establishment (Transferred)—Civil Surgeons,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 40,000 under the head '32A.—Medical Establishment—District Medical Establishment (Transferred)—Travelling Allowance,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: I move that the demand of Rs. 5,88,000 under the head "32A.—Medical Establishment" be refused.

I do not want to make a speech about this. My motion does not quarrel with the sum, but with the system under which this sum is spent

and my reason for bringing this motion before the Council is that up till 1914, no real endeavour was made for giving any real medical relief to the rural population. Just now I have heard of a new project suggested by the Hon'ble Minister for giving additional medical relief to the rural population. What I mean to say is that it is surprising to us that this demand should be brought forward by the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq because he knows better than anybody else that the system under which this money will be spent, does not conform with the spirit of the Reforms under which he is a Minister here. Much bigger sums should have been spent under this head, but the point is that through this demand medical relief is given to certain district stations and certain subdivisional stations, but general medical relief to the rural population is not given through this demand. I do not want to take up the time of the Council, but this is my argument, and with these words I move my motion for the acceptance of the House.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: I am not a medical authority like my friend Dr. J. M. Das Gupta who has proposed that this sum of Rs. 5,88,000 should be entirely refused. I may point out to him that this sum is made up of three main items—

(1) the pay of the Surgeon-General's office staff;
(2) all Civil Surgeons and their staff in the province: and
(3) all medical officers in charge of subdivisional dispensaries.

I would ask my friend to consider if there is any necessity for maintaining these officers, and if there is, whether this total demand ought to be refused. I would only submit to this Council that if this total demand is refused, the whole medical administration of the province will be at a standstill, and it will be difficult for us to go on with the ordinary departmental work. It is for this reason, if for no other, that I would appeal to my friend to withdraw this motion.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejey Krishna.
Chakraverty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Mirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mahini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boreda Prasad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohan.

Quadar, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajib Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Atey, Mr. S. Mahbeob.
Barton, Mr. H.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Cheinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dess, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shahead.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Wilson, Mr. R. B

The Ayes being 58 and the Noes 57, the motion was carried.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 2,15,980 under the head '32B.—Medical—Hospitals and Dispensaries—Presidency Hospitals and Dispensaries—Assistant Surgeons, Deputy Superintendent, etc.,' be refused."

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 11,000 under the head '32B.—Medical—Hospitals and Dispensaries—House-rent and other allowances,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand of Rs. 4,30,000 for diet, clothing and bedding for Presidency Hospitals and Dispensaries under the head '32B.—Medical Hospitals and Dispensaries,' be reduced by Rs. 1,30,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 1,00,000 for medical and surgical requisites under the head '32B.—Medical—Presidency Hospitals and Dispensaries,' be reduced by Rs. 75,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 3,72,000 for contract contingencies under the head '32B.—Medical—Presidency Hospitals and Dispensaries,' be reduced by Rs. 1,72,000."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 14,45,000 under the head '32B.—Medical—Presidency Hospitals and Dispensaries,' be refused."

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 10,000 under the head '32B.—Medical—Mufassal Hospitals and Dispensaries (Transferred)—House-rent and other Allowances' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 20,79,000 under the head '32B.—Medical—Hospitals and Dispensaries,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Babu NALINI-RANJAN SARKAR and Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,00,000 under the head '32C.—Grants for Medical Purpose—Grants to the Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Institute, be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 1,00,000 for grants to the Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Institute under the head '32C.—Grants for Medical Purposes,' be reduced by Rs. 75,500."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 1,00,000 under the head '32C.—Grants to the Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Institute,' be reduced by Rs. 50,000."

Mr. TARIT BHUSAN ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 1,00,000 under the head '32C.—Grants to the Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Institute,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 11,300 for grants to the Lady Minto Nursing Association under the head '32C.—Grants for Medical Purposes,' be reduced by Rs. 6,300."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 12,000 under the head '32C.—Grants for Medical Purposes—Other Grants,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 1,42,000 under head '32C.—Grants for Medical Purposes,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 67,620 in respect of '32D.—Medical Schools and Colleges—Medical Colleges—Principal, Professors, etc.' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA and Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 8,000 under the head '32D.—Medical Schools and Colleges—Medical College—House-rent and other Allowances,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 2,98,000 under the head '32D.—Medical Colleges,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 63,240 under the head '32D.—Medical Schools and Colleges—Medical Schools—School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Institute—Pay of Officers,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 21,196 under the head '32D.—Medical Schools and Colleges—School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Institute—Allowances, etc.,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 84,000 under the head '32D.—Medical Schools and Colleges—School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Institute—Supplies and Services,' be refused."

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA RDY: "That the demand for Rs. 6,600 under the head '32D.—Medical Schools and Colleges—Other Medical Schools—House-rent and other Allowances,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 5,12,000 under the head '32D.—Medical Schools,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 8,10,000 under the head '32D.—Medical Schools and Colleges,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 13,680 under the head '32E.—Lunatic Asylum—Superintendence, etc.,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 41,000 under the head '32E.—Lunatic Asylum—Contract Contingencies,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 7,33,000 under the head '32E.—Lunatic Asylum—Grants to Lunatic Asylum,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 7,33,000 under the head '32E.—Grant to Lunatic Asylums,' be reduced by Rs. 5,33,000."

Babu NALINIRANJAN SARKAR, and Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 9,87,000 under the head '32E.—Lunatic Asylum,' be refused."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 9,87,000 under 'Detailed Account No. 32E.—Lunatic Asylum,' be reduced by Rs. 4,00,000."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 21,000 under the head '32F.—Chemical Examiner—Chemical and Assistant Chemical Examiners,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA: "That the demand for Rs. 7,000 under the head '32F.—Chemical Examiner—Charges for Serological Test,' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 48,000 under the head '32F.—Chemical Examiner' be refused."

Dr. J. M. DAS GUPTA, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN, and Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: "That the demand of Rs. 46,83,000 under the head '32.—Medical,' be refused."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand for Rs. 47,18,000 under the head '32.—Medical,' be reduced by Rs. 1,50,000."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: I move that the demand for Rs. 47,18,000 under the head "32.—Medical" as amended in Council be reduced by Re. 1.

The object with which I put forward this motion was to condemn the way in which this budget under the head "Medical" has been drafted. I do not like to take up the time of the Council by any lengthy discussion on the policy we are adopting of trying to refuse the grants. It has been said, Sir, for the last few days by many of our friends opposite that the policy we are adopting is a policy of Bolshevism. It is a policy which is a wrecking policy—a policy which our constituencies do not approve.

Our "candid friends" opposite have given us many advices. I cannot help comparing them to that delightful "Poor man's friend," Sir Joseph Bowley, so admirably depicted by Dickens. "Your only business my good fellow is with me. You need not trouble yourself to

think about anything. I will think for you; I know what is good for you; I am your perpetual parent. Such is the dispensation of an all-wise Providence. What man can do, I do, I do my duty as the poor man's friend and father; and I endeavour to educate his mind by inculcating on all occasions the one great lesson which that class requires, that is, entire dependence on myself. They have no business whatever with themselves." That is the way in which some members of the Treasury Bench and some of our "candid friends" on the other side have given us a bit of their mind. But before I come to this grant I should like to say a few words with regard to the constitutional aspect of our position.

The method we are adopting is a strictly constitutional method sanctioned by parliamentary usages and procedure and sanctified by the blood of your martyrs. For British members of this House to cry down our policy and compare us with Bolshevists is a matter of unutterable shame. We are doing to-day what their forefathers did at the time of the Stuarts in the 17th century. Sir, the temper of our opponents is the temper of a pedant, a pedant's conceit and a pedant's inability to bring his theories into any relation with actual facts. Our temper is pre-eminently a temper of law—a temper of criticism, of judgment, and if need be, of stubborn and unconquerable resistance—a resistance which springs, not from a disdain of authority, but from a devotion to an authority, higher than that of bureaucracy. It is that very temper which drove Parliament to present a petition of grievances to James I, when he made a demand for grant to pay off his royal debt in 1610. The Parliament was dissolved and was not summoned for three years. When in 1614 it was called again it was filled with "Swarajists" and it refused to grant supplies till the public grievances were considered, with the result that it was again dissolved and four leading agitators were sent to the Tower. For seven years there was no Parliament and it was summoned only to be dissolved again as it submitted the "Protestation" which the King tore with his own hand from the journals of Parliament of 1621. The struggle of Charles I with his Parliament is a matter of common knowledge to even our schoolboys—though, forgotten or conveniently overlooked by Britishers out here to shake the Pagoda tree. Subsidies, tonnage, and poundage, forced loans, benevolences were all refused and a Petition of Right was presented. No Parliament met again for eleven years. Leaders were again thrown to the Tower—of course by the same formalities as are observed under Regulation III of 1818. But it could not crush the spirit of an Elliot, a Pym or a Hampden. The Long Parliament met and one by one the lawless Acts of the Stuarts were undone and the "Grand Remonstrance" was adopted by the House. History bears evidence of what followed and even a monarch had to fall, and another had to ignominiously leave the shores of England, before the onrushing tide of popular will. History repeats

itself and there need be no apprehension that our acts are strictly constitutional in overthrowing the budget as a means of expressing our legitimate grievances.

Now so far as the merits of my motion are concerned, my motion is a sort of condemnation of the Medical budget which I condemn on various grounds.

The foremost ground which comes to my mind is the levy of the 8 annas fee per day on indoor patients of hospitals. There was also a similar fee for outdoor patients but this has been cancelled. We find the total amount budgeted under "Medical" is Rs. 58,35,000 and out of which we find the cost of the medical establishment, the pay and allowances of I.M.S. officers who are 54 in number, comes up to something like Rs. 10 lakhs: the exact figure is Rs. 9,80,000. Now if we take away the pay and allowances of the I.M.S. men from the total grant, a balance of Rs. 48,00,000 is left for expenditure under this head. What do we get in return for the services of these I.M.S. people? Among other things, high class medical education imparted by the I.M.S. men is supposed to be one of the greatest boons, but, Sir, the statistical reports show that educational work under the I.M.S. managed colleges costs Rs. 848 per student per year: the products turned out have not found to be in any way superior (by actual University or other tests) to that turned out by colleges managed by the independent medical practitioners at a cost of Rs. 181 per student per year. Just see the figures for 1921-22:—

Carmichael Medical College for 600 students—Rs. 1,08,918.

Medical College for 800 students—Rs. 6,78,537.

In the Medical College Hospital each bed cost Rs. 1,199, in Carmichael Medical College Rs. 548.

No medical man could venture to assert that there is any difference in the standard or quality of treatment. It will thus be seen that a sum of Rs. 5,33,600 is spent unnecessarily (667 × 800).

The expenditure of the salary of the officers in question is justified on the ground of its being a contribution to the Military Department of India for the purpose of maintaining a so-called *war reserve*.

But may I ask what is the proportion of officers who actually served in the war supplied from the "war reservist" as compared to the number supplied by the independent practitioners. The figures are *350 to 950*, which speak for themselves. A question arises whether we can contribute from our scanty means the large sum of Rs. 5,33,600 to the Military Department.

It is for you to decide whether you should entrust any longer the medical education of your children into the hands of the people whose interest it is to keep them perpetually under their control as assistants and subordinates. The character of education is bound to be vitiated by their unnatural attitude of superiority.

Now let us take the districts—there are at present about 16 Civil Surgeons in the districts. Half the sum spent as pay of these district medical officers could be saved by utilising the services of independent medical practitioners for district work—the average pay for such district medical officers being Rs. 500 with privilege of private practice.

In the Jail Department we find a large number of I.M.S. officers appointed in charge of executive administration of jail. We admit the necessity of medical advisers for jail and for that purpose Indian medical graduates can be available at a much lower cost and can do the work just as efficiently. I can assure the House there are no European families amongst the inmates of the jail who might object to being treated by Indian doctors.

With regard to medical relief we find a magnificent sum of Rs. 1,20,000 has been sanctioned for the purchase of quinine evidently to treat malaria. We have the high authority of the Secretary of the Department of Health that with this sum at their disposal the Government would be in a position to treat a very much larger number of cases than the 2 millions of cases treated last year. I would have been very glad to know what the actual amount of quinine which the Government proposes to purchase with the sum and the quantity of the drug that may be doled out to each of the, say, 2½ millions of sufferers. It will no doubt be comforting to our Homœopathic Colleagues to find that their system of treatment is making headway among the Bengal Government authorities.

The painful fact about this matter is that the Bengal Government has been criminally sacrificing the interest of the malaria-stricken people of Bengal by the culpable negligence in cultivating and manufacturing adequate quantities of quinine for their benefit and so long as the reserved departments, thanks to the diarchy, appropriates 6 lakhs of rupees out of the sale-proceeds of cinchona products with a callous disregard for the indescribable sufferings of our people, so long there is nothing but despair for the people.

Babu SURENDRA NATH RAY: The hon'ble members of this House may remember that in my budget speech I pointed out that the Hon'ble the Finance Member had not taken sufficient note of the claims of the transferred departments and that unless such claims were recognised in time I for my part did not know what would be my attitude with reference to the budget when it would come up before us in its final stage. It appears that nothing has been done to amend the budget and we are asked to pass it almost in the shape in which it was presented before us. Sir, I did not enter this Council to wreck it. I have entered the Council along with a number of my friends to work in the Council and to co-operate as best as we can to help in carrying on the administration. But if the Government is determined not to take any heed of public opinion I and my friends are helpless and we cannot put our seal of approval to anything and everything which is laid before us.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am afraid this has got nothing to do with the medical vote which is now under discussion.

Babu SURENDRA NATH RAY: I have made these remarks so that my position may not be misunderstood. Before considering the many-sided issues raised on the side of Government by some of the members, both official and non-official, I think it necessary to look back a little into past history and compare present conditions with the past.

When after the creation of the Presidency of Bengal the Legislative Council met in the beginning of 1913, out of a total estimated receipt of Rs. 5,93,06,000 or say 6 crores in round numbers, Rs. 1,34,88,000 was allotted to Education, 41 lakhs to Medical and Public Health, about Rs. 95,82,000 or about a crore in round numbers to Police, only about Rs. 23 lakhs in General Administration. These figures I have taken from the amended Financial Statement of 1913-14. I ought to mention that the Dacca University, which now consumes more than Rs. 9 lakhs of revenue, had not come into existence then while in the reserved side the settlement department has been greatly curtailed. According to the present budget estimates, i.e., the budget for the year 1924-25 the receipts are expected to be about 10½ crores. What are the allotments in the major transferred departments. One crore and 22 lakhs are set apart for Education; about 87 lakhs to Medical and Sanitation. I must mention that the pay of the officers of the Indian Services have greatly increased since 1913. Under the head "Police" the sum put down is Rs. 1,84,68,000. In General Administration it is Rs. 96,83,000.

When the present system of diarchy was accepted by some of the Indians in 1918, they accepted it in the belief that the people would be left free and be able to transform the educational system and improve sanitation. But the experience of the last few years have clearly shown that this is not to be, and even some of the leaders of the Moderate party have said that things could not continue in this fashion any longer. When in 1921 during the budget discussion, Colonel Pugh, an elected European member of this Council, complained that the budget did not show any policy on the part of the Ministers selected and that the allocation of revenue to the transferred side was unfair, the defence came not from the Ministers but from the Member in charge of the Finance Department (Sir John Kerr), and the defence was contained in these few words:—"The Ministers as sensible men had to accept the situation, they could not raid the reserved departments and grab money for schemes on the transferred side," and to do away with any question arising from rules 31 and 32 of the Devolution Rules he said—"We did not allocate (the revenue) on the basis of the proportions and our judgment was swayed solely by the needs of different departments and not at all by any theoretical proportions." This gave away at one stroke the principle that at least the proportion of revenue that was then being expended on the transferred departments should be spent on that side. In this connection

I may say that as then pointed out by my friend Mr. S. R. Das, the opening balance consisting of Rs. 3 crores and 44 lakhs out of which 1 crore and 85 lakhs consisted of unspent balance on education and sanitation and this amount was frittered away by the Government by bad financial policy. When the question of new taxation came under the discussion in this Council it was understood that at least 70 per cent. of the proceeds of new taxation would be spent on the transferred side. Since at least 1917 we have had many large promises, but by one excuse after another they have not been fulfilled. Such has been the history of the budget grants so far as the transferred departments are concerned. Now we are threatened that if we do not accept the budget as dictated to us like the sensible Ministers of 1921, we shall have to bear the consequences—the nation-building departments would be completely starved—18 lakhs for primary education to local bodies would be withdrawn—5 lakhs of loans to municipalities and district boards would cease—22 lakhs to district boards and municipalities for public health, water-supply and hospitals would cease. To this my reply is that we, the elected representatives of the people, cannot accept the situation as it is. It must be made clear that we do not accept or approve by our vote proposals which take away our rights and do not fulfil or aim at fulfilling promises made to the people. The business of Government can only be carried on the principle of give and take and this was the principle of diarchy—but since 1921, the Government had been simply trying by one method or another the principle of take without trying to fulfil their obligations and take with one hand what they promised with the other. The responsibility, if any, therefore, for throwing out some of the principal items of the budget is, therefore, not with us, but with those who have not fulfilled their promises. And I am sure in their heart of hearts even the present Ministers are with us, or ought to be with us if they really love their country. If His Excellency the Governor takes charge of the transferred departments, he will be able to spend more money in them than the Ministers for he will not have to be a suppliant for small mercies at the hands of the Finance Member. He will at least see for a time the difficulties of the Ministers. In the old Council, the members could move amendments to transfer sums of money from one head to another. But we have no such power now. We are bound to accept the small grants put down in the budget without murmur. We should like to know what ought we possibly to do under the circumstances. Are the transferred departments to remain famished for ever? Two ex-ministers of this Council told us the other day how their departments had been starved. We find to our surprise that the provision for "Education" for 1924-25 is less than that of 1923-24 by nearly two lakhs of rupees. If the Ministers had resigned their offices at least a year ago they would have done signal services to the country and the transferred departments would have fared much better. But if they failed in their duty we, as the representatives of the people, ought to make it clear that we do not approve of the budget with

a huge expenditure on "General Administration" and the "Police" and the nation-building departments half famished. I think, however, that it would not be wise on our part to reject the Education grant. There are those who say that we are wreckers of Government because we have the hardihood to speak the truth, but what shall we say of those who have looked upon the Reforms with step-motherly affection in its inception, tried to throttle it at its birth, and are now showing their sympathy by trying to smother it?

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: My hon'ble friend, Babu Bijoy Krishna Bose in moving his motion said that it was in a tone of despair that he had moved it. Obviously his object was to criticise the method of the department generally and not to criticise or ask for reduction or refusal of a particular grant under a particular head. I rise to speak on the subject in a tone of despondency. We had been charged repeatedly that when we have taken a policy of refusing a grant *in toto*, why do we not take each individual item on their merits and refuse, according to the opinion of the Council, each individual item? My answer to that is that if we had even the power of transferring a particular amount of a particular head to another head I, personally, would have been satisfied with that. But under the present Act we are prevented from doing so. Therefore, the only alternative is to raise a loud cry so that not only the Government and the members may hear it but also those in England in whose hands lies our destiny. The other day His Excellency in his speech in the Council stated that if the grants under the transferred departments are refused, education, medical relief, agriculture and industries will be starved and serious injuries will be inflicted not on Government which would remain unaffected, but upon the people whose interests we are here to represent. He went on to say that his Government would not be embarrassed by such a situation which was not of their creation and from which they would in no way suffer while it lasted. Sir, that accounts for the tone of despondency which I have to express to-night. Are we to understand that the Members of the Government want to make a distinction between them on the one hand and the people on the other? Is it not one of the fundamental duties of Government to teach its subjects in the science of medicine to render them medical help when necessary? Why then this distinction is being made by the Head of the Executive when he says that "we would in no way suffer while it lasted"—let the people suffer? That is the reason why a spirit of despondency has overtaken all of us.

Coming to the medical subject, I find, as one of my friends has already suggested, that the amount allocated this year, that is, Rs. 58,00,000 including voted and non-voted item, is larger than the amount of Rs. 38,00,000 which was voted in 1920-21. But if we look closely into the figures what do we find? The medical establishment alone costs Rs. 6,97,000 in 1920-21 as against Rs. 9,88,000 for 1924-25. Then what are the figures with reference to hospitals and dispensaries?

It was Rs. 19,28,000 in 1920-21 as aginst Rs. 22,38,000 in the ensuing year. The grant for medical purposes was Rs. 2,30,000 in 1920-21, whereas it is Rs. 1,42,000 for the ensuing year. The only item besides medical establishment which shows increase is under the head lunatic asiyum where, instead of Rs. 3,43,000, a grant of Rs. 9,87,000 has been made. This is for providing accommodation for those who happen to be His Majesty's guests in the asylum. Now, Sir, what is the result of this increase in the pay and allowance of the members of the Medical Service? Let us see how they are being paid. I have before me a Civil List for the first of January, 1924, and what do we find there? Here is a medical man whose grade pay is Rs. 1,100 but his allowances come up to Rs. 1,300 as follows: Acting allowance Rs. 250, local allowance Rs. 200, duty allowance Rs. 500, and there are some other allowances. Sir, if you have got to pay allowance to a man to do his duty I wonder what he is getting his grade pay for? If this state of things go on, I do not doubt that we shall have to go on increasing our contributions towards the upkeep of this costly service. I speak with all the confidence that I possess having been connected with medical education and medical relief for the last 20 years and I say this that so long as we go on giving such allowances we cannot possibly bring a balance sheet before us with regard to income and expenditure. The result is that we have got to levy fees for hospital treatment which is an unfortunate position which the Government had to take up. I would not enter into discussion at the present moment whether the levying of fees from outdoor or indoor patients is justifiable or not but what I do say is that the maintenance of such costly service entails a larger sum and that it affects medical relief and sanitary improvement, etc. The only reason which might be given for the purpose of maintaining this costly establishment is that it is maintained for the purpose of training students and also for the purpose of affording medical relief to patients. Sir, before 1916, it was the usual plea that the Indian Medical Service people are the only people who could teach students in medicine and that it was a necessary evil. But since then we have had a college with which I have the honour to be associated for the last five years—I mean the Carmichael Medical College and there are at least 40 medical men attached to the staff of the College serving their motherland and their people without any pay. If this can be made possible within two or three miles from the Calcutta Medical College there is no justification whatever for the Government to pay Rs. 9,00,000 for the purposes of teaching students in medicine. It may be suggested that these men are under a covenant and that therefore we must keep them somewhere. This is a matter which if I were to discuss I would be told that this is a question for the Secretary of State and not for us. But at the same time we must put forward our objection in the strongest possible terms as regards the maintenance of this service. Sir, during the war out of 28 Civil Surgeoncies in Bengal 17 were held by members of the professional medical service and not one word has been said about their inability to

do their work which the I.M.S. men were doing and have been doing since. Only 11 I.M.S. men were on duty in different districts at that time. I ask again what justification can there be for spending Rs. 1,500 for one of these I.M.S. officers when we can get the same work done by paying much less to local Indian officers. The result has been, as those who have read the report of the Public Services Commission know, that the Members of the Indian Medical Service when they find that the practice which they used to command in former years are dwindling away, want more allowance and more pay to compensate them for the loss. Not only that, but they also want special allowances for their wives and children—for their daughters until they are married and for their sons until they attain the age of 21. If you go on in this way what I have said before you will not be able to balance your income with your expenditure.

Another reason which is put forward in maintaining I.M.S. men in the districts is that the European officers in the districts like to be treated by Europeans. Sir, I have my own opinion about it. I have practised here long enough and I have practised in England in different towns and I know for certain that when it is a question of medical treatment and the question of life and death the average European is shrewd enough not to depend upon his prejudice. As a matter of fact one of the late Secretaries of the European Association sent for me one day to treat him. The first question I asked him as to why he had sent for me when there were so many European doctors in Calcutta, his reply was—my life is more precious than my convictions.

Grants to Medical Colleges, Sir, form some of the items in the budget. I will deal with the question of the grant that is made to the Carmichael College. I had a talk with one of the former Surgeon-General about this. I told him that the grant of Rs. 50,000 a year which is given to this college is too little for the number of patients that are being treated and the number of students that are being taught. I maintain that one of the fundamental duties of Government is and should always be to treat patients and to teach students in medicine. While you are spending Rs. 9,00,000 for the Medical College for about 600 patients you are spending only Rs. 50,000 for just half the number of patients and yet this is considered to be too large and I am not supposed to ask for any more. I am not mentioning this for the purpose of melting the heart of Mr. G. S. Dutt or the Hon'ble the Minister in charge but for the purpose of showing the injustice that is being done every day under the shibboleth of higher and greater utility of the service. My object in putting forward this question before the House is that I maintain that every Government has got certain legal liabilities and that their moral liabilities are even greater than their legal ones. Legal liabilities can be decided and adjusted in a court of law, but no lawyer can help the parties to obtain justice when moral liabilities are concerned.

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: I wish the Government to state what retrenchments have been effected in the present budget in pursuance of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee. I find that the Retrenchment Committee suggested a retrenchment of Rs. 3,00,000 in the medical budget and was also of opinion that further retrenchments might be effected. With regard to the Indian Medical Service, the Committee was of opinion that in the interest of economy and without loss of efficiency Assistant Surgeons should replace members of the Indian Medical Service and they made their recommendations accordingly.

Then with regard to the Military Assistant Surgeons the Retrenchment Committee was decidedly of opinion that there was no advantage to the Province from the employment of so many of the more expensive of the two classes of Assistant Surgeons, and no disadvantage would result from the replacement of the majority of them by members of the less expensive service.

With regard to the Assistant Surgeons the Committee was of opinion that as in some institutions Assistant Surgeons can replace Indian Medical Service officers so in the same way the Sub-Assistant Surgeons replace Assistant Surgeons and thereby enable the work to be carried on satisfactorily by a cheaper agency.

With regard to allowances the Committee was of opinion that allowances must in all cases be abolished; they thought that the control and supervision of institutions in the charge of the Medical Department within the jurisdiction of any Civil Surgeon should be regarded as part of his normal duties, which he should discharge without any additional remuneration.

I would also utilise the present occasion to dispel some misapprehensions and to give a clear expression of our present attitude in connection with the budget. We had intended to express in the most emphatic terms our condemnation of the diarchical form of Government. In that we have succeeded and the diarchical form is at an end. That is the only result of the refusal of the Ministers' salary. We are now discussing the budget on the merits and our actions to-day and during the last few days must have given conclusive evidence of the correctness of this statement.

Babu JOGINDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVORTI: I desire to make only a few observations and my only reason for doing that is to bring before the House prominently some features of the medical budget. Sir, I often wonder the mentality of the persons who are responsible for framing this budget. Well, I do not know whether there is any use whatever in shrieking and shouting in this Council for the purpose of offering our criticisms regarding the budget because whenever we make an attempt to do that the answer that is put forward on behalf of Government is that this is the Government policy and that policy should be

adhered to. Now the Hon'ble Member will be pleased to find that the total allocation for medical purposes the voted and the non-voted comes up to Rs. 58,35,000.

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is not relevant to the present discussion. At present we are concerned with the Medical vote. It does not matter in the least how much is provided under other heads.

Babu JOGINDRA CHANDRA CHAKRAVORTI: With regard to the total demand under this head I wish to draw the attenion of the members of the House to certain figures in the budget to enable them to understand the anxiety of Government to give relief to the people who are suffering from illness in this province. The Hon'ble Minister told us in the course of his speech that the provision was made for medical relief. And we were led to think that we were going to get something very substantial which would go to the relief of the sick. As a matter of fact we find the main portion of this grant is eaten up by grants to the Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Institution, Lady Minto Nursing Association and the Lady Canning Home. These three items alone absorb the greater portion of this grant. Then there is a provision for the training of *dhais*, Rs. 11,000, and there is "other grants," Rs. 12,000. I do not know what is exactly meant by the words "other grants" for which this big provision has been made. I take it, therefore, that this grant is intended for miscellaneous purposes in regard to medical. Now, Sir, I will only ask the Minister to consider as to whether this is a sufficient provision for that purpose throughout the Province. I come from a mufassal district, a district which is notorious for malaria and I feel, therefore, that the Government is pursuing a policy with regard to the relief of the sick in this country which cannot by any means be supported. In my own district I should say little medical relief is given nor do we find serious attempts being made to give medical relief to those who are in genuine need of it.

Now, Sir, in this medical budget we find that a large amount is being provided for establishment charges and other things, and when we come to the real question of actual medical relief the figure is very insignificant. These are matters which cannot possibly be passed over in silence. We know, Sir, that our crying over these matters will not be of any avail. Therefore, I said that my only object in rising to speak to offer a few observations on the medical budget and to bring prominently to the members of the House the way in which the budget has been prepared to the utter disregard of the needs of the country.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The time allotted to this subject expires at 4-46 P.M. It is now 4-35 P.M. The Hon'ble Minister will at least require five minutes to reply to the debate. I can therefore only allow Dr. Kumud Sankar Ray to speak as a medical man. I am sorry I cannot

allow you, Shah Saheb, to address the House at length on this subject, as I must bring the discussion to an end at the allotted time.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: I had no intention of taking part in this debate, as my friends Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy and Babu Bejoy Krishna Bose have dealt in a remarkable way with the main features of the medical budget. I want to say one or two words regarding the policy of Government which guides medical education and in this connection I would like to mention a few facts obtained from the answer given to a question by the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of Public Health in this House. In answer to a question asked by me in this House regarding the number of available medical practitioners in this province, I was told that the number available is something like one in ten thousand and this number, you all will agree, is hardly adequate to supply the whole province of Bengal. We are told that Government is trying to open medical institutions in different parts of the province and in the speeches delivered by their Excellencies Lord Ronaldshay and Lord Lytton, we have been told that it is the desire of Government to help those institutions which can be organised by public efforts: so that is how the Government will come and help such institutions to be developed in different parts of Bengal. In my humble way I have been associated with the development of a medical institution in common with certain of my friends who are making wonderful self-sacrifice by devoting their time and energy for this purpose—it may not be known to all—I mean the institution at Maniktala. Through the kindness of the Maharaja of Cossimbazar (I find him present in this House) we were able to make some headway in this direction and we have nearly completed all the equipments for the scientific departments in that institution. We approached the Government for the permission of dissection of dead bodies (and we were prepared to pay something over it, as each unclaimed dead body costs from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 for disposal by the hospital authorities), so that we might teach the students anatomy properly and after a great deal of trouble I am glad to say that the Government has seen its way to sanction the dissection of dead bodies by us.

There is another difficulty which shows how the want of policy of Government hinders the progress of these institutions. As we all know every medical institution must have a well-equipped hospital for clinical training of the students. I hope you know the condition in England, for instance, in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, where the students only receive scientific training, they go to London for the clinical part of their training. We applied to Government to give permission to our students to attend some of the hospitals such as the Sambhunath Pandit Hospital, the Mayo Hospital and the Voluntary Venereal Hospital and the Police Hospital. I may tell the House that the total number of beds in those institutions is something like 300

to 400 and they can quite well form a nucleus for the training of medical practitioners of the kind to which I have referred. But you will be surprised at the response we have received in this matter. I have been trying to move in this matter for the last two years in one of the hospitals in question—I have the honour of working as an honorary member on its staff for the last four years—and to open it to students without any additional expenditure on the part of the hospital. We were quite prepared to give the necessary training free of charge. On the other hand the authorities of that institution were prepared to give some allowance for giving the clinical lectures to the members who were in charge of those hospitals. We were told that the arrangements cannot be done. Naturally growth of such institutions are delayed. This is not the only instance, but the same fate has been shared by some of the Government-aided hospitals. Some of you gentlemen may know that there is a hospital in Elgin Road, which has been in need of an X-ray apparatus for diagnosis of fracture cases and for want of a paltry sum of Rs. 15,000 it could not get it.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ spoke in Bengali in support of the motion.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: I will not detain the Council by going into details. My friend Babu Bejoy Krishna Bose in moving this motion said that he brought it forward as a condemnation of the budget that was presented before the Council. On this point, Sir, I wish to say that no one pretends that this budget is a counsel of perfection. We admit that there are defects and blemishes, but it should be the object of every one of us here to try and remedy those defects as much as possible. I am prepared to admit, Sir, that some of the criticisms are justified.

Now let me go somewhat into the details as regards the question of levying fees from those who go to our hospitals. I may mention that this has been stopped in the case of outdoor patients and as regards the indoor patients this matter is still under the consideration of Government.

Then, Sir, as regards the cadre of the Indian Medical Service, I may mention that on the recommendation of the late Minister, the Hon'ble Sir Surendra Nath Banerjea, the Secretary of State has sanctioned the reduction of posts in that cadre from 40 to 24. Effect will be given gradually to the recommendation in each case as the lien of the present incumbent expires and as orders are received from the Government of India.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I rise to a point of order, Sir. Does not the recommendation of the Secretary of State contain a proviso?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: Yes, the proviso to which Dr. Roy refers has reference to the recommendations that are to be made by the Lee Commission. It is for this reason that the whole matter is now provisional and all I can say at the present moment is that there is no reason to doubt that the Secretary of State will finally give the fullest effect to the recommendation of the local Government.

Meanwhile, Sir, Government propose to replace some officer of the I.M.D. in charge of districts by Civil Assistant Surgeons.

As regards the distribution of quinine I may mention that—although I am not an expert—it is said that the world's production of quinine is one million pounds per annum and this would not suffice, according to Dr. Bentley, for three months' consumption even by the population of Bengal. If we were to treat even the two million patients—it is a rough number of the patients in our hospitals suffering from malaria—with a dose of quinine varying from one to two ounces per head then it will cost us Rs. 35,00,000 to Rs. 70,00,000.

The motion was then put and lost.

The motion of Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq under the head "32.—Medical," as amended in Council, was then put and agreed to.

33.—Public Health.

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT [PUBLIC HEALTH] (the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Chuznavi): I move that a sum of Rs. 27,61,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "33.—Public Health." This sum of Rs. 27,61,000, as the Council will see, represents an increase of more than Rs. 3 lakhs over the sum provided in the current year's budget which was Rs. 24,55,000.

Public Health Establishment.—Under the head "Public Health Establishment" a provision has been made of Rs. 6,44,000 as against the provision of Rs. 7,06,000 in the current year. The reduction in next year's estimates is attributable to the savings effected as a result of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee by the abolition of the Assistant Directors of Public Health, one post of Assistant Sanitary Engineer together with their ministerial and menial staff. Larger provision has been made for temporary establishment, as the Chief Engineer, Public Health Department, will undertake an increased number of water works schemes and schemes for sanitary improvements to supervise which he will require a larger staff.

Publicity Work.—The education of the public in matters of public health and sanitation is one of the most important aspects of public

health work and in order to make this work more effective an additional provision of Rs. 7,000 has been made for supplying the publicity officer of this department with magic lantern slides and other materials for educative work in public health.

Grants for Public Health Purposes.—Under the head "Grants for Public Health Purposes" a provision is being made for Rs. 17,93,000 as against Rs. 15,77,000 in the present year.

We are repeating the augmentation grant of Rs. 8,68,000 which is intended for sanitary improvements including rural water supply.

With regard to the other grants under this head Rs. 4,50,000 is being provided for continuing the Dacca Sewerage Scheme and a sum of Rs. 15,000 for its maintenance.

A sum of Rs 79,000 for the completion of the Comilla Water Supply Scheme has been provided.

A sum of Rs. 60,000 has also been provided for the completion of the Midnapore Water Supply Scheme.

We are also providing a sum of Rs. 45,000 for the Calcutta Fringe Area Drainage; for Calcutta Sewerage Rs. 5,000; for Murshidabad Conservancy Work Rs. 4,000. A sum of Rs. 5,000 is being provided for the Basirhat Drainage Scheme; Rs. 58,000 for the Serampore Water-Supply Extension; and Rs. 33,000 for the experimental boring with a view to the construction of water works at Malda, Bogra and Brahmanbaria.

Rural Water Supply.—A provision is being also made under this head of Rs. 50,000 as grants to Union Boards for the improvements of rural water-supply.

This grant has been much criticised. The policy of Government in respect of rural water supply has been fully explained by Mr. Dutt, the Secretary in this department, in the course of the budget discussion and it is not necessary for me to repeat what he said there except to say that Government expect that the solution of this problem of rural water-supply will be taken up by Union Boards and that District Boards will approach the solution of this problem mainly not by means of grants out of their ordinary revenue but by loans. It is only by means of loans that it is possible to solve a problem of such great magnitude in which posterity is equally interested with, if not more interested than the present generation. The Union Boards during the last year have spent a sum of Rs. 57,000 on water supply and Government have therefore provided an almost equal amount during the next year. It is proposed to make a subsidy every year in future in proportion to the amounts spent by the Union Boards, and Government hope that Union Boards will undertake larger expenditure under this head, in which case Government will also be glad to contribute proportionately, but I would repeat that the solution of this problem of water supply must be sought

mainly in funds collected through loans so that the charges may be divided over a larger number of years and not involve an undue strain on provincial revenue or on local bodies.

This grant for rural water supply is a new feature of the next year's budget. Government have decided after careful consideration to make an annual recurring grant every year with effect from next year to help towards the solution of the rural water supply problem, besides the assistance which the District Boards are expected to make from the Public Works Cess and the augmentation grant.

Epidemic Diseases.—Under the head "Expenditure in connection with the epidemic diseases" a provision of Rs. 3,11,000 has been made as against Rs. 1,33,000 only in the present year. Out of this Rs. 12,000 represents the balance of a donation made by a private contributor in 1919 towards the maintenance of the Sonarpore Observatory for malarial research.

Quinine.—A provision of Rs. 1,20,000 is being made for free grants of quinine to local bodies as against Rs. 80,000 in the present year. This grant will be of great assistance to District Boards in the treatment of malaria patients in their dispensaries

Anti-Malarial Measures.—The sum of Rs. 50,000 has been provided for anti-malarial measures. It is proposed to distribute this amount as subsidy mainly to the Central Anti-Malarial Co-operative Society and other similar voluntary organizations. The amount may appear small, but Government believe that by adopting the policy of subsidising voluntary societies the amount will in practice be multiplied many times more by the voluntary efforts of the societies which are being organised in different parts of the province and which it is the intention of Government to subsidise as much as their funds permit.

Anti-Kala-Azar Campaign.—The grant of Rs. 50,000 for anti-kala-azar campaign is proposed to be divided among district boards and other local bodies who have taken up anti-kala-azar work in right earnest and have opened many centres of treatment. This problem can only be solved by Government by subsidising local bodies and encouraging them to spend money from their own funds to supplement the grants which Government are able to make them. Many applications for this grant have already been received from District Boards.

Anti-Cholera measures.—A special grant of Rs. 16,000 is proposed to be made during the ensuing year for special measures against a virulent epidemic of cholera which is expected in the dry season. This will enable special staff to be employed in localities which are specially affected with cholera.

Maternity and Child-Welfare.—A new feature of the budget under this head is a recurring provision of Rs. 25,000 for maternity and child-welfare work. It is proposed to utilise this amount in subsidising organised efforts on the part of local bodies for the training of *dhais* and

for the holding of Child-Welfare Exhibitions, the utility of which has already been demonstrated during the last cold weather.

Loans.—A provision is also being made for Rs. 5,80,000 to be distributed to local bodies in the shape of loans for carrying out urgent schemes of local improvement. The actual items being the loan of—

Rs. 45,000 to the Comilla Water Works.
Rs. 10,000 for the Suri Water-Supply.
Rs. 60,000 for the Serampore Water-Supply.
Rs. 3,000 for the Basirhat Drainage Scheme.
Rs. 10,000 for the Berhampore Water-Supply.
Rs. 3,00,000 for the Dacca Sewerage Scheme.
Rs. 1,33,000 for the Narayangunge Water-Supply.
Rs. 19,000 for the Rungpur Drainage Scheme.

I would earnestly request the Council to vote the demand as Local Bodies and Public Health organisations all over the Province are eagerly waiting for the grants. I would solemnly strike a note of warning and point out to the Council that unless the demand is voted, these grants cannot be authorised by His Excellency the Governor. If the country is deprived of these grants the members opposite will alone be responsible for carrying misery and suffering to millions of our countrymen.

The grants that cannot be authorised unless passed by the Council, I repeat, are:—

(1) Rs. 7,000 for public health propaganda.
(2) Rs. 8,68,000 a augmentation grant to District Boards for sanitation and water-supply.
(3) Rs. 4,50,000 for the Dacca Sewerage Scheme and
(4) Rs. 15,000 for its maintenance.
(5) Rs. 79,000 for completion of the Comilla Water-Supply Scheme.
(6) Rs. 60,000 for completion of the Midnapore Water-Supply Scheme.
(7) Rs. 45,000 for the Calcutta Fringe Area Drainage.*
(8) Rs. 5,000 for Calcutta Sewerage.
(9) Rs. 4,000 for the Murshidabad Conservancy Work.
(10) Rs. 5,000 for the Basirhat Drainage Scheme.
(11) Rs. 58,000 for the Serampore Water-Supply Extension.
(12) Rs. 33,000 for experimental boring in connection with Water-Works Schemes at Malda, Bogra and Brahmanberia.
(13) Rs. 50,000 grants to Union Boards for improvements of rural water-supply.
(14) Rs. 1,20,000 for free quinine grants to local bodies.
(15) Rs. 50,000 for Anti-Malarial Measures.
(16) Rs. 50,000 for Anti-Kala-Azar Campaign.
(17) Rs. 16,000 for Anti-Cholera Work.
(18) Rs. 25,000 for Maternity and Child-Welfare Work.

And the loans, which as I have already mentioned, amount to Rs. 5,80,000.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 86,250 for pay of Director and Assistant Directors of Public Health under the head '33A.—Public Health Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 36,250."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 86,250 under the head '33A.—Public Health Establishment—Pay of Director and Assistant Directors of Public Health,' be reduced by Rs. 30,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 78,800 for pay of other gazetted officers under the head '33A.—Public Health Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 28,800."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 78,000 under the head '33A.—Public Health Establishment—Pay of other Gazetted Officers,' be reduced by Rs. 24,800."

He spoke in Bengali in support of his motion.

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: The motion to reduce the demand of Rs. 78,000 for the pay of other gazetted officers of the Public Health establishment is based on a misconception as to the meaning of true economy. The appalling prevalence of preventable diseases indicates that more rather than fewer skilled sanitarians are required in Bengal. It is absolutely necessary to remind the Council that although lives can sometimes be saved by timely treatment, in the case of preventable diseases prevention is better than cure. The mortality from cholera, for example, is wholly preventable and this can be done by an adequate arrangement of sanitary officers for educating the public in cholera prevention. A reduction in Public Health establishment cannot be justified on the score of economy. Every year there is a demand that Government should devote a larger proportion of funds to sanitation, but it would be foolish to spend more on sanitation and at the same time to reduce the number of skilled officers required to direct that expenditure. Skill, like everything else worth having, has to be paid for (Hear; hear).

The establishment of sanitary officers is an integral part of the whole system of Local Self-Government. They are the eyes and ears of the Government in connection with the sanitary administration of the country by local authorities. The establishment covered by this amount consists of three Executive Engineers under the Chief Engineer, Public Health Department, and of the Septic Tank Inspector, five Assistant Surgeons in Public Health work, one Superintendent in charge of the Vaccination Depôt, and one Medical Inspector of Schools employed under

Public Health Department. It is absolutely necessary for the proper administration of the Department that these officers should be retained and in connection with the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee's proposals it was decided that no reduction should be made in these posts. I may further remind my friend, the Shah Sahib, that Mr. C. R. Das, in submitting his proposal to the Hon'ble the Finance Member, has himself suggested that there should be 700 sanitary officers for thanas and furthermore 80 officers in subdivisions and 30 health officers in districts. All these officers are in his opinion necessary for the administration of the Public Health Department.

The motion was then put and lost.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 18,000 for lump provision for 33½ per cent. increase in the allowance of Assistant Directors under the head '33A.—Public Health Establishment,' be refused."

He spoke in Bengali in support of his motion.

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: I oppose this motion for the refusal of the lump provision for 33½ per cent. increase in the allowance of Assistant Directors of Public Health. The rate of pay ordinarily fixed for these officers in 1912 by the Government of India was only a tentative one and the Royal Commission on Public Services in 1915 recommended that their case should be considered.

The motion was then put and lost.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ moved that the demand of Rs. 80,000 under the head '33A.—Public Health Establishment—Travelling Allowance,' be reduced by Rs. 20,000."

He spoke in Bengali in support of his motion.

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: The grant for travelling allowance represents the minimum requirements of the two branches of the Public Health Department; viz., the Director of Public Health and his subordinates and the Chief Engineer, Public Health Department, and his subordinates. The Chief Engineer and his subordinates have to supervise many important water works and drainage projects undertaken by local bodies which involve large expenditure of money and unless they are allowed to tour freely for the purposes of supervising those projects, the funds of the local bodies will run the risk of being wasted.

The motion was then put and lost.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 22,000 under the head '33A.—Public Health Establishment (Transferred)—House-rent and other Allowances,' be refused."

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 12,000 under the head '33A.—Public Health Establishment (Transferred)—Lump provision for Publicity Work,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Maulvi SAYEDAL HOQUE, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand of Rs. 6,44,000 under the head '33A.—Public Health Establishment,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 3,10,000 under the head '33B.—Expenses in connection with Epidemic Diseases,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 11,000 under the head '33C.—Bacteriological Laboratories,' be refused."

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY, Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY, Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 27,61,000 under the head '33.—Public Health,' be refused."

The motion of the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Ghuznavi under the head "33. Public Health" was then put and agreed to.

34.—Agriculture.

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE and INDUSTRIES (the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Ghuznavi: I move that a sum of Rs. 17,10,000 be granted for expenditure under head "34.—Agriculture." All this of course is not for Agriculture proper. I wish it was. If it was we should not compare so badly as we do now with all the other provinces of India in the matter of expenditure on Agriculture. I have been comparing the Bengal budget figures for this department with the corresponding figures in other provinces and I regret to say that in Bengal we are comparatively neglecting this department. I trust that the position will not be made any worse by the reduction or rejection of this demand.

As I have said, other heads are included in this. For the Veterinary Department there is a sum of Rs. 3,63,000; for the Co-operative Department Rs. 4,63,000, for the Botanical Gardens nearly 2 lakhs, for Sericulture over 2 lakhs. The balance after making these deductions is what is left for Agriculture. It is entirely inadequate but it is the best that we can do.

We have been accused of having expensive officers at the head of the department. We have less than any of the major provinces and we could find work, useful work, nation-building work, for many more and it would pay Bengal to have them. We have a Director, three Deputy Directors, a Fibre Expert, a Chemist and two Botanists. These have a few assistants and we have about half a dozen Superintendents. We are providing for no more than about 30 district agricultural officers and 80 demonstrators. When we remember the enormous area of Bengal, the variety and importance of its crops and the backward state of the profession of agriculture we must admit that this provision is indeed very low. But with our limited farms the staff is all that we can usefully employ in the districts and we have reduced the large staff that existed for that reason. But we could benefit greatly by more research officers and more farms and we would then require more administrative officers.

I have given a general idea of our agricultural policy in the general discussion on the budget. I need not repeat it here. Nor need I enter into a description of what the department has done. It is well known and a reference to the annual reports will well repay those who have any doubt about the work.

In the Veterinary Department we budget for Rs. 3,63,000 against last year's budget estimate of Rs. 3,28,000 and revised estimates of Rs. 3,43,000. The increase under the non-voted head in Superintendence is because the Director has gone on leave and has elected to draw his leave pay in India for part of the time. The rest of the increase in this department is due practically to the incremental scales of the staff only. In considering the veterinary demand reference should also be made to the receipt side of the budget at page 17 of the budget estimate. Here there is a receipt estimate of Rs. 1,90,000 from this department. So that the actual net cost will amount to little over 1½ lakhs of rupees.

In Agriculture under Superintendence our estimate is Rs. 85,000 as compared with our estimate of Rs. 92,000 last year. This is the cost of the Director, his Personal Assistant, his office staff, contingencies and travelling allowances. Under "Other supervising staff" we come down from an estimate of Rs. 4,77,000 to Rs. 3,65,000. This is the cost of the three Deputy Directors, the Research Staff, the Superintendents of Agriculture and the district agricultural officers and demonstrators. Under the head of farms we come down from a budget estimate last year of Rs. 2,01,000 to an estimate of Rs. 1,76,000. This is in excess of the revised estimate of Rs. 1,56,000, but it must be remembered that we have more farms to work in the coming year. In this connection, too, I would invite the attention of the Council to the estimate of Agricultural receipts Rs. 1,68,000 shown on page 17 of the receipts budget. That estimate includes receipts from sericulture, but a great part of it is from these farms. I hope that with strict insistence on my policy the receipts estimate will be exceeded.

For agricultural experiments we have provided only Rs. 27,000 against the revised estimate of Rs. 40,500 and we have made a small provision of Rs. 4,500 for water-hyacinth experiments.

Under sericulture there is a slight increase over the revised estimates due to the increase in contingencies owing to the increasing number of nurseries at work, the provision of rewards for students, and the incremental scale of the clerks.

In the Botanical and other gardens demand the estimate is less than the revised estimate of the current year.

In the Co-operative Department the demand is Rs. 4,39,000 against a revised estimate of Rs. 4,50,000 for the current year. The reduction is due to the replacement of Sub-Deputy Collectors by non-gazetted inspectors. The budget, however, does not contain, as it should, provision for 10 more auditors, for the cost of whom the societies will pay fees. These fees are shown at page 20 of the budget estimate under Receipts as included in fees for Government audits, a large part of that estimate being receipts from the Co-operative Department.

In conclusion I can only again commend these essential demands to the best consideration of the Council.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 3,22,000 under the head '34A.—Veterinary Charges,' be refused."

Nawab SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, Khan Bahadur: I move that the demand for Rs. 1,10,000 under the head "34B.—Agriculture—Other Supervising Staff—Pay of Establishment—Technical Staff," be reduced by rupee one.

The Bengal Agricultural Department is not an organisation of to-day, but is based upon the experience of nearly 30 years, during which period it had to traverse many routes under different controlling agents. Though not reputed to be always in sympathy with the public demands of the day, the department had never been thought to be an useless appendage to the Government and the people had always been accustomed to look forward to it for guidance in agricultural matters. From time to time changes had been made in the personnel as well as in the methods of recruitment, but the fact always remained prominent that the organisation was undermanned and required an increase in the staff. In the first period of its history the department was a combined one with Land Records, and a few Agricultural Graduates from Cirencester assisted the combined head of office. This was at the beginning. The next step was a slight devolution and the Department of Agriculture was organised as an independent unit apart from the Department of Land

Records. Thus the Agricultural Department, came to exist as it is today. Under the régime, there was a Director of Agriculture, assisted by a Deputy Director and a few other officers of the rank of travelling overseers, inspectors, etc. After the annulment of the Partition it was decided to have five qualified agricultural graduates appointed to a grade called the Provincial Agricultural Service, each in charge of a Division—corresponding to the administrative division of the Province. Gradually again, two more Deputy Directors were appointed and the Province divided into three Circles each in charge of a Deputy Director. The Secretary of State further sanctioned two more posts of Deputy Directors and the idea was to put one Deputy Director in charge of each Circle. Along with this superior cadre, the number of district agricultural officers were also increased and the ultimate aim was not only to have an officer for every district but one for each of the more important subdivisions as well.

The lower subordinate staff of the department consists of the demonstrators and it was till recently the declared policy of the Government to increase their number by about 50 per annum until there was at least one such man for every thana. Besides these men, there are the Research officers, etc. This, in short, is the history of the departmental staff.

When I took charge of the Portfolio, the one thing that struck me was the duplication of work, among the Deputy Directors and the Superintendents. Both these officers used to do the same work and naturally that led to several works being done in duplicate and I took up the matter at once. What I suggested was that the Deputy Directors would really be responsible for the Divisional Administration and the Superintendent should be entrusted with some special line of work. I also selected these special works as follows :—

(1) Surgarcane.
(2) Tobacco.
(3) Cotton.
(4) Date Palm.
(5) Soil Survey.
(6) Irrigation.
(7) Agricultural Education.

It is well know that each of the above lines of work were capable of engaging the entire energies of the whole time officer, and it was my conviction that the Divisional Administration would also be improved considerably by making the Deputy Directors entirely responsible for the same in direct communication with the district agricultural officers.

At this stage came the Retrenchment Committee and everybody knows how sweeping their recommendations were in connection with Agriculture. Most of the Provincial posts were abolished, two Deputy Directorships were kept in abeyance, the number of district agricultural

officers and demonstrators considerably reduced. I agreed to many of these proposals—knowing it fully well that by so doing I was taking a good deal of responsibility upon myself—but still I did it. It was on the clear understanding, however, that the money liberated by these retrenchments would be spent in works of a more important nature awaiting completion.

The present budget shows that the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee have all been carefully attended to as a consequence of which a great deal of money must have been available. It has, however, failed to give us a pleasant surprise by indicating how this surplus money is to be spent in accordance with the spirit in which the Committee recommended the cuts and the loyalty with which the Ministers so readily submitted to several of the cuts agreed to by them as well as those that were more or less enforced upon them against their wishes. They have thus been made the instruments willingly or unwillingly to bring into existence the present state of affairs without being compensated by a corresponding amount of improvement attributable to them. While it has been possible for the Finance Department to pass items of expenditure under some of the Reserved Departments that to the common sense of the layman appear to be almost frivolous, the nation-building departments have been starved and not only so, has been deprived even of their original share. We had, for example, a district agricultural officer in every district, but it was found that without a suitable district farm, the activities of the district agricultural officers or demonstrators could not be displayed fully and the fundamental requirement of success would be to open farms where one did not exist. Much against my will, I agreed to the retrenchment of so many young officers, but my sole object in doing so was to get enough money to start the farms first. What do we see now? We have turned out so many loyal servants and thus risking so much public criticism, but the farms also have not been provided for. Are we to understand then that we are to be satisfied with two farms only this year? And if so, can it not be rightly said that the people have not been very fairly treated?

In my speech on the general budget debate, I mentioned a few projects which were of a very urgent character and for which the Council voted money but which was subsequently withheld. The Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture in reply thought it right to say that he did not fail looking into every pigeon hole in search of them but to his grief without any success. I do not know if he was seriously speaking—wit is an excellent appetiser in debates elsewhere, but not in the Council Chamber during the budget debates where one has to deal with realities, and truths cannot be brushed aside for the mere satisfaction of whims of an Hon'ble Minister, but if he had only looked into the printed proceedings of the Council what projects were sanctioned by the Council, he would have been spared the worry of a close search in the different offices; if that was troublesome and tedious for a busy Minister he might have obtained

the information from my friend Mr. Donovan—the schemes for which money was voted was not one or two; they numbered over 27, the amount sanctioned for Rs. 5,16,737. Schemes which were sanctioned and were awaiting budget provision numbered 12, schemes which were administratively approved numbered 10, and schemes which were prepared and were being considered 4, of schemes in comtemplation number 9. May I not now expect the Hon'ble Minister to admit that his statement was incorrect?

The unhappy findings of the Retrenchment Committee have always been a source of annoyance to many, but the present policy is worse still—it will create discontent. Everybody is expected to be fair whether it be the Government or the people.

The Hon'ble the Minister has said in connection with the subject of agricultural education that the Chinsura and the Dacca Agricultural Schools have passed out students who hanker after some Government post and failing to get one, as many of them do, become discontented. But what consolation has the Hon'ble Minister got for those of the officers who have been discharged from service in the prime of their life for no fault of theirs? Is it not likely that they have a right to be a hundred times more discontented than a student of an agricultural school? The students of the schools would hardly have had the necessity of being discontented if the Hon'ble Minister had taken up the question of expanding the uctivities of the department.

The Superintendents were considered to be redundant in the divisional administration and it was proposed to put them on special duties. They have been retrenched all right, but the second part of the scheme appears to have been still unprovided for.

I am of opinion that the entire system has to be changed. Previously the Director of Agriculture was a member of the I.C.S. and the Administration was much better. Now anyone who happens to be a member of the Indian Agricultural Service is not only eligible for the post but the I.C.S. seems to have lost the post altogether. The result is that we do not get any benefit of the administrative capacities of an I.C.S. man and have to be satisfied with the poor performances of an expert Director at the same time do not necessarily gain in much agricultural superiority of the man, we are required to have as our Director, anyone who happens to be the seniormost Imperial man in the Department. An expert in one line has always a bias in his own sphere, and it is hardly possible for the other section to get ample consideration from him. Added to this is his administrative inferiority. I am afraid this state of affairs will have to be changed. Let the Administrative and the Research Sections have two heads, so that the seniormost expert may have no grievance if the Administrative head is recruited from those of the Administrative men in the Service as may be suitably available. We shall have better control of the Research Section from a man of the Research line and in

the Administrative matters also we shall get the benefit of a man who had been in that section for the best part of his life. It is a pity that we should be deprived of the services of the I.C.S. where he is most needed and that he should be forced upon us where we do not want him, and can do without him.

Maulvi RAJB UDDIN TARAFDAR then addressed the Council in Bengali.

SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, AGRICULTURE and INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT (Mr. J. T. Donovan): On a point of order, Sir; I understand that the motion we are discussing is No. 870 which deals with a demand of Rs. 1,10,000 for the technical staff. If I understand the hon'ble member aright, he is travelling very far from the technical staff.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Maulvi Sahib, you must keep within the bounds of the motion. You have not said anything yet about the motion; you must keep to the point.

Maulvi RAJB UDDIN TARAFDAR continued his speech in Bengali, the translation of which is as follows:—

In support of the motion No. 870 this afternoon I take the opportunity of taking part in discussion of the Agriculture budget. I consider it my duty to raise my voice of protest, on behalf of the Bogra agriculturists, against the injustice done by the Government upon the poor cultivators in the name of justice by opening this department. None of the cultivators are deriving any benefit from the Veterinary establishments that are situated in the towns, not in the villages where the need is the surest. One would necessarily think that it is meant only for the treatment of rich town people, cattle and sometimes their dogs. I had a talk with Khan Bahadur Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, our late Minister for Agriculture, when he paid a visit to Bogra and then I fully realised from the discussion what meagre benefit the poor cultivators could expect from this department. I suggested if anything real is meant then it is essential that steps be taken to improve the cattle breeding, provide pasture grounds and establish such machinery of water-supply as will meet scanty rainfall and also to appoint such persons in the local agricultural association as are following this particular profession of life and not those rich men, who possess very little idea of agriculture but nothing of the kind is done in the district of Bogra. Uptil now, I think, the Government is only maintaining some fat salaried people at those agricultural farms at the cost of poor cultivators without imparting any appreciable benefit to them. This is why I oppose and criticise the policy of the Government that pervades the Agriculture budget.

Mr. J. T. DONOVAN: I find myself in a somewhat invidious position in that I have been called upon by my present Chief to reply to

a motion moved by my late Chief, and to answer on behalf of my present Chief the criticism of the work of my late Chief put forward by my late Chief himself. I doubt if, in all the surprising phases through which this Council has passed in the last three weeks, anything more Hibernian than what we are hearing now has come before the House. I shall do my best to explain to the Nawab Sahib the defects which he left behind him and the hopes which we have for the future. I realise, and the Hon'ble Mr. Ghuznavi realises what exactly the intentions of the Nawab Sahib are in bringing this motion before the House. We know that the Nawab Sahib is here to assist us, and we know the spirit that actuates him. After years of acquaintance with him personally I know that it is not in a carping spirit of criticism that he has brought his motion before the House, but with only one desire, namely, to assist us. He knows we want his assistance and we realise that from his speech.

It is perfectly true that during the first few weeks of the occupation by the Hon'ble Mr. Ghuznavi of the *gaddi*, so lately vacated by the Nawab Sahib, Mr. Ghuznavi failed to discover many of these schemes which the Nawab Sahib had initiated during his tenure of office. I must take the blame upon myself entirely; I am afraid I failed in my duty in not bringing those schemes to the notice of Mr. Ghuznavi, but at the same time the Nawab Sahib will remember that during these few weeks there were many claims upon our time; most strange circumstances arose; most unusual problems were brought before us with which we were asked to deal; and if the pigeon holes were not swept out as carefully as they might have been, I trust the Nawab Sahib will forgive me and let the fact be forgotten. I can assure him that in future we shall have all those schemes before us, and they will be of great assistance to us.

I am grateful to him for having given such a succinct history of the Agricultural Department to this new Council. For many reasons it appears to me that a succinct history and a brief and clear statement of the objects and aims of this department are most desirable for this Council. The Nawab Sahib has given that statement and has given that history. He has also indicated what he hoped for in the future, and he has given as his reason for assenting to the retrenchments to which he did assent the fact that he hoped that the money so saved would be utilised in the nation-building departments. Sir, those hopes are also our hopes, but the savings from retrenchment have not accumulated to the extent to which the Nawab Sahib had expected and it has therefore not been possible to give effect to the schemes which are so dear to his heart as well as to mine and, I know, to that of his successor. But, Sir, we still have hopes that this money will accumulate and we still look forward to better times, and the Nawab Sahib may rest assured that his wish will not be forgotten and that we shall fight the corner of this department on every possible occasion that may arise. In

fact, we have done the very best we could with the amount which has been accumulated and placed at our disposal. We have proposed two new farms for the coming year to which the Nawab Sahib has referred only to say that he thinks that they are not sufficient. I only hope that we shall be able to carry out our programme and that in future years we shall be able to increase the number of these farms. I realise that the Nawab Sahib will be a tower of strength on our side when we come to the Council again for funds for starting more farms.

There are some other matters to which the Nawab Sahib has referred which will have our attention—the Chinsurah and the Dacca Schools, for instance. I should like to refer, too, to the extraordinary compliment which he has paid to the unfortunate service to which I have the honour to belong. It is very rarely in this Council that this service is flattered in the way in which the Nawab Sahib has flattered it. He has held up this service as the model of an administrative service and has actually asked the Council to give its assent to turning down the expert officer in charge of the Agriculture Department and replacing him by an officer of the Indian Civil Service. Well, Sir, I hope that our friends opposite, when they begin to replace the steel frame by the bamboo structure or whatever else they have in their minds, will remember the appeal which the Nawab Sahib has made this afternoon on behalf of my service. The Nawab Sahib has had experience of that service: he has worked with it during the past three years, and it is a source of pride to me, which I am sure is shared by Mr. Swan, who also worked with him, that at the end of three years we hear the Nawab Sahib speaking so well of the service whose boast, like the motto of the Prince of Wales, is "Ich Dien". I recommend the Nawab Sahib's words even to the Swaraj Council of Bengal I hope the Nawab Sahib will not press his motion. I thank him for the compliment that he has paid to my service and I thank him on behalf of the Hon'ble Minister, and I can assure him that the schemes which he has brought before the Council will receive our careful consideration.

The motion was then, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 8,000 under the head '34B. Agriculture (Transferred) Other Supervising Staff—House rent and other allowances,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 3,08,800 under the head '34B.—Agriculture—Other Supervising Staff,' be reduced by Rs. 65,000."

Nawab SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, Khan Bahadur: I move that the demand for Rs. 95,000 for contingencies under the head 34B.—Agriculture—Experimental Farms, be reduced by Re. 1.

Bengal is primarily an agricultural country and on the improvement of her agriculture will depend much of her economic salvation. During the last 30 years of its existence, the Department of Agriculture has made various endeavours to solve the main questions and the accummulated experience of nearly three decades has enabled us to form a definite idea of the country's requirements. In the first place we have always to remember that if the Department should exist it must do so for the benefit of the cultivators. The cultivators again are poor, and with divided holdings of small sizes. Consequently when we think of a raiyat, we have to think of his limitations as well. The problems of Bengal are not the same as in the West. In the West there are the farmers with big holdings, run on commercial lines where the labourers are of the status of ordinary workers as in the industrial concerns. The relation between the farmers and the working hands is only one of the employer with the employee. In Bengal the raiyat is ordinarily a peasant, proprietor either permanent or for the time being. The Western farmer is a fairly well-to-do man and capable of using many modern appliances to obtain his ends. The Bengal raiyat is poor and generally in debt with the result that he is not in a position to adopt costly methods even if he was convinced of their superiority. The West is richer than the East, and their average income as well as their standard of living higher. The climatic conditions of these two countries are different from one another. In short what is wanted in the West may not necessarily be suitable for the East.

From before the Reforms the Agricultural Department was in existence. It cannot be said that the officers did not work satisfactorily. Every endeavour was made to improve the situation. Under the direction of a Civilian Director, there was some versatility in the activities as well, but with the appointment of an Expert Director things changed considerably. When I came into office, I found that there were some factors in the department that required immediate rectification both with regard to the Administrative as well as the Research sections. In the first place there was a persistent opposition from certain quarters to the appointment of qualified Indian experts even for short terms, e.g., leave vacancies with the result that the Indian feelings were not in favour of the department. Secondly, there was a very narrow channel through which the activities of the department flowed; as a matter of fact there was a time when the department could rightly have been called the Department of Kakya Bombai Jute Indrasail Paddy. Thirdly, there was almost an uncommon antagonism between the Department and the people and it was by no means a rare thing for the people to have cold water thrown upon all their demands even if those were of a very moderate nature. Public opinion was a thing least attended to by the officers, but yet the people never wanted the department to be abolished. On the contrary they always lent their helping hand to the cause.

The demands of the people, which are very just and reasonable, as far as I could see, are to be fulfilled if a perfect co-operation between the two parties is to be ensured. In short they are as follows:—

(1) That the Agricultural Department should be expanded and its activities not limited to any detail but to broader problems as well. The first problem is to show the raiyat how with his limited resources, he can raise much better crops by the use of improved seeds, varieties of crops and cheap irrigation methods.

(2) Next to that will come the problem of improving the position of the better class of agriculturists, who have a larger holding than the average and who are capable of spending some money for raising valuable crops with the help of chemical manures, improved seeds and the use of better implements of tillage.

(3) The next question to be tackled would be the middle classes who are now suffering from the effects of the present-day unemployment and who have to be shown some way of profitable occupation. This will involve the creation of a new tradition for our young men.

(4) As regards the farms of the Western type managed as so many industrial concerns, the people do not want them. What is the least wanted in Bengal is the introduction of a soulless system where the farmer will run a big place on commercial lines with the help of tractors, etc. Near large towns the effects of too much industrialisation are always apparent through the constant upheaval of the workmen and if we reduce the agricultural and rural environments of the Province to the position of an industry without a soul, the consequence would be disastrous.

The Hon'ble Minister has expressed a desire to establish a farm run with the help of modern implements, etc. The idea is not a new one. We already had a tractor in the Dacca farm and another at Chinsura. I do not know of any such big farm at Doulatpur, but am feeling inclined to believe that the Hon'ble Minister has made a mistake and instead of naming Ranaghat as the locality has described it as Doulatpur. If the Hon'ble Minister would care to ask the proprietor of the Ranaghat Farm (if I am right) he will at once find that I was the man to suggest most of the improvements mentioned in the Hon'ble Minister's speech. What I think is this. That we must not encourage the establishment of farms of the Western type in Bengal. It will be positively harmful to the cultivators. Combined with the factor that is coming very soon, viz., the system of transferring occupancy holdings, the monetary strength of some of our richer people or may be some foreigners, the temptation to the raiyat will be too great to be resisted and the result will be that the smaller holdings will be amalgamated into bigger ones, while the present-day proprietors will be reduced to the position of day-labourers.

The situation thus created will react on all our national character. It may be worth noting how the presence of a few industrial concerns round a town, e.g., Calcutta invokes rowdyism at times of strikes, etc., and if our rural areas are visited by such system there will be no end of troubles. The machines will take the place of the human element and the day-labourers, with their idle brains, will have plenty of room for creating trouble and disturb the peace in such a way as might render any civilised Government ineffective to a certain extent.

What is really wanted is the introduction of the smaller improvements among the raiyats. Tractors were not found out to be very suitable even in our own farms and far less so will they probably be outside. If the use of such appliances are to be encouraged it would be for the benefit of a handful of Zamindars and Capitalists but at the sacrifice of the raiyats. The limited number of interested men will be helped at the cost of the majority. If any zamindar who has suitably situated khas land at his disposal, proposes to use tractors, let him do so and surely the agricultural officers may help him. But it would not be wise for the Government to take up the lead in the matter, and spend money on such schemes, which are not likely to benefit the masses with whom we are more concerned.

The Hon'ble Minister has indicated his desire to prove that agriculture as a vocation is paying. This he has proposed to do by dividing the existing farms into two parts, one experimental and the other commercial. This was also the policy laid down by me, but I wanted to go further and demonstrate the results of successful experiments to the remotest villages, on small plots and under conditions in which our agriculturists actually live. No provision appear to have been made in the budget to attain this end. The elementary farm schools as proposed by me, were to be the chief centres of such work, but they have apparently been knocked on the head, but no suitable alternative has also been suggested either.

The establishment of more Government farms has not been provided for. We are to have only two this year. There were several places where a farm is essentially necessary and financial help was offered by individuals or public bodies. Malda, for example, was willing to contribute to the establishment of a farm. The soil and climate of that district is quite different from any of the other districts in Bengal, being more akin to Bihar, and hence this place, which can hardly be served by any other district farm should have had priority in this matter. But there is no mention of it. The people of these places, who offered their helping hand to the Government have naturally a right to be disappointed as a consequence, and the Government should thank itself if anyone now feels shy to offer help for such schemes.

The Hon'ble Minister has made another mistake by saying that the consolidation of holdings is to be encouraged as that would ultimately

lead to the establishment of farms of the Western type. I have tried to show how this tendency will act upon the country. I quite agree with him that the small size of our holdings is a drawback in the introduction of superior implements, but the remedy of the evil does not lie in consolidating them. Consolidation, within a certain limit, and between individuals by mutual consent may be beneficial to the parties inasmuch as it would economise the various agricultural operations, but beyond that is dangerous, and specially so when the object is to create a tendency towards Western farming. This aspect of our agriculture has to be solved by the adoption of the co-operative method, keeping the individual holdings intact within the limits of economy.

In short, I have failed to some extent to appreciate the Hon'ble Minister's budget speech and it is with reluctance that I move the motion which stands in my name.

[At this stage the Council was adjourned for 15 minutes.]

[After the adjournment.]

Dr. H. W. B. MORENO: Sir, dealing with the question of experimental farms, I for one should like to advise the Government to spend a good deal more of money in the opening out of more such farms, as farming is a very vital question which affects a large portion of the population of the Province. Bengal is essentially, as the other provinces of India are, a province where agriculture looms very large and it is, therefore, very necessary to devote as much as possible of the funds of the Province to the improvement of agriculture. It is the great question in every progressive country how more and more money should be given for the purpose of agriculture and indeed that is the history of all material progress. In Bengal these experimental farms fulfil a very useful purpose, but it is necessary that they should be so equipped that they may serve to instruct the people to produce their own crops as profitably as possible. That a farm of that kind is a valuable asset can only be gauged if we insist that experimental farms should be of such a nature that the people could easily copy them in their own methods of agriculture. Some time ago I was in the Central Provinces and I had the opportunity of seeing a so-called experimental farm there. Although the farm produced very good results, I was disappointed when I saw that the machinery that was introduced in that farm was of very high type—a type which the common cultivator could not easily procure. It is no use giving the people of the country means whereby they can improve their agriculture if those means are not easily available. I saw a large tractor engine that could be made useful for ploughing the ground. Certainly it did tend to till the soil effectively, but the machine was entirely one which the common cultivator could not handle. In fact where it was employed it was left axle deep on the soft earth by the ignorant users and stood there as a standing monument of utter failure. When I was also at the Exhibition at Allahabad,

I noticed how they were showing the cultivators the use of steam ploughs, but all the while I felt that these instruments were not those that could be easily available or easily repaired by the common cultivator. That must be the main factor in all experimental farms not introducing things simply because they are in use in the Western countries but to introduce those things which could be easily handled by the cultivators of India and which could be easily repaired in case of breakdown. In the outlying districts it is always difficult to get smithies where these instruments can be repaired. The cheaper the instrument the better for the cultivator. I, therefore, advocate that in all these experimental farms means be employed which the cultivators could easily use and which could as easily be repaired.

Another thing I should like to bring to the notice of the Council is that those agricultural farms should be made paying concerns. It is no use spending a good deal of money for providing the agriculturists with up-to-date experimental farms, when the means employed are so very costly that they are beyond the reach of the cultivator. I may cite as an example for this purpose what I saw in the Central Provinces, and that was a dairy farm where excellent milk was produced, but the means employed was so very costly that it was a thing entirely by itself and could not be touched by local cultivators. Now, what we have to show to the people is that Government can bring about a condition of things by cheap and paying machinery which the cultivator could introduce with great advantage in his own farm, and for this purpose the Government could see that these model farms are made to pay. The cultivators would thus benefit by the lessons they would receive and they could then effect improvements in their own methods of agriculture. Sir, if this principle is followed by Government there can be no hesitation in pronouncing the good it would achieve. For that purpose I would ask Government to set up a number of such small farms at convenient centres which could be easily available to the cultivator who would profit by what they would observe. I hold that these experimental farms are very valuable things and they serve a very useful purpose. I say so because I realise that if the material progress of the country is to be maintained, it must be maintained in India especially through the medium of agriculture. We have heard a good deal of the great industries of the West and of the introduction of such industries in India, but I realise, as most people here do realise, that India is and will remain for years to come, an agricultural country, and that if progress is to be achieved, the only way of doing it is by making agriculture a paying concern and that is by means of experimental farms which would serve as object lessons to the many tillers of the soil.

Mr. W. L. TRAVERS: I do not propose to occupy the time of the Council very long, but as I am an agriculturist myself and take great interest in this subject, I should like to say a few words about the

various activities of these farms to which both the Nawab Sahib and Dr. Moreno have referred. A great deal has been said about the utility of these farms. The first business, in my opinion, in connection with these farms is experiment. The second is demonstration and the third is the business point of view. First of all, by experiment on suitable soil in every district, you must find out which are the most suitable crops to grow, which crops are going to pay the raiyats and which will enable them to make money in the end. The second thing after experiment is to demonstrate to the raiyat, and that is most difficult, even more difficult than experiment, and it can only be done by properly qualified officers. When I say properly qualified officers I mean those who have learnt their technical duties in regard to agriculture. This should be their first qualification, and the second which is just as important is that they must be able to get in touch with the people of the district where they are demonstrating. Then after these two activities have been satisfied--experiment and demonstration after a period of years, it should be possible for the department to make those farms pay their own way. But I consider that this thing is rather subsidiary it is not so much for a farm to pay as to teach the raiyat the proper way of cultivation.

Mr. S. C. MUKERJI: I was listening to my friend with rapt attention and I greatly appreciate the remarks which fell from his lips. I felt that we were hearing the remarks from one who was in real touch with the agriculturists and who had real solid good experience about agricultural conditions of the country. He was quite right when he characterised the town man and about his abysmal ignorance about agriculture. Three years ago, Sir, I was invited by the late Minister of Agriculture, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, to attend an Agricultural Conference at Dacca. When I got the invitation I addressed this question to myself what on earth led the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture to invite me—a Calcutta man to an Agricultural Conference at Dacca? When I reached Dacca I thought that it would be a good excursion to Dacca and it would give me a very good opportunity of seeing that great old capital. When I reached Dacca and when I attended the Conference and when I listened to the most useful debate that took place in that Agricultural Conference at Dacca then I came to realise why I was invited to that Agricultural Conference. The Nawab Sahib had in mind to get townspeople there and to give them a good dose of training about agriculture (Loud cries of: "Excellent, excellent"), and after the Conference, Sir, we were taken to the Agricultural Farm at Dacca and it was there that we were shown all over the place as to the theoretical part of the business and also the practical work that was being done at the agricultural farm at Dacca. I fully appreciate all that has fallen from the late Minister of Agriculture. His words are pregnant, his advice is sound, his experience ripe and mature and I am sure that the policy which he has laid down will be taken note of by

the present Ministry and every attention will be paid to that policy which has been laid down by the Nawab Sahib. An agricultural farm in a Presidency town may be a costly business, but I think we ought not to grudge that cost because model agricultural farms are an absolute necessity. That will lead to the introduction of farms in the districts all over Bengal. Scientific training in agriculture is absolutely necessary and people trained in agricultural farms and demonstrators properly trained ought to be sent out to every district in Bengal who will be in real and close touch with the agricultural people and will place before them his actual experience and by a show of practical demonstration as to how new methods can be introduced and new methods can be applied for the improvement of agriculture.

Rai ABINASH CHANDRA BANERJEE Bahadur: On the subject of experimental farms, with the permission of the House, I should like to state an experience of my own. I have a farm, part of which is experimental which I stated a few years ago. The people of my district at that time used to come forward and give me advice gratis saying that I was throwing away good money for a bad cause. Now those very people came to me to take practical lessons from my experimental farm. I will give a concrete example. We have a particular variety of soil from which we could produce paddy at, say, 3 maunds per bigha. I began experimenting. From my experiments I came to the conclusion that unless the power of that particular soil for retaining water be increased it would be no good growing paddy there. It was unanimously decided at a meeting of our Agricultural Association that we should have plots of bigger size, say, 8 or 10 bighas each, so that that particular piece of land might retain water for several months at a time. It was then found that in place of 3 maunds we could produce 10 maunds per bigha. And since then up till now we have been producing from 10 to 15 maunds of paddy from that particular variety of soil. What I would now beg to submit to the House is this: that if India at the present time wishes to develop her industries, it is the agricultural industry that requires to be developed first. But how are we going to do that? As matters stand now we find that unless the Government comes forward to give a lead, the people will not take to it. I was very glad to learn from the speech of the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture that attempts will be made by his department to show to the people that farms can be run so as to make them paying concerns. If I may venture a suggestion, I would ask the Minister to open small farms and after they have been made to run successfully to invite tenders from the public with a view to selling them off. From my own experience in collieries, I may point out that this has been proved successful so far as collieries are concerned. We ourselves took collieries, made them run successfully and then had no difficulty to find ready buyers for them at a good profit. In this particular case, I would suggest that Government should start farms of, say, between 100 and

300 acres just to show to the people that agriculture can be made a paying concern and then invite the people to come forward to purchase them. They may be sold at cost price and it would be doing a great good to the country. I am at one with the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture that experimental farms are a necessity in the present conditions of the country.

Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: I am really puzzled over the mystic figure " 1 " in the motion. I do not know why the reduction should be made by this mysterious figure " 1." I am a little bit of Arabic scholar and there is such a word as *Wahed* in Arabic which means one—it is the name of God who is a mysterious being. Therefore I fail to see why the reduction will be made by one rupee and not by 10 thousand or 12 thousand rupees?

Mr. PRESIDENT: It is the usual form of inviting a discussion.

Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: But still it is a puzzle to me, Sir. Why should the mover condemn the policy of the Minister and then only propose to cut down one rupee from the budget? If agricultural farms are not necessary, then throw out the whole budget relating to it—I can understand that. But if the experimental farms are required for the country why then show your disapproval by proposing a reduction by one rupee? If the mover and his supporters thought that such a big amount was not necessary, they should have pointed out some figure by which the amount should be reduced.

So far as agricultural farms are concerned, I think they are necessary. But I should like to know whether they will be established in towns or in the mufassal villages? Mr. S. C. Mukerji has told us that he attended an agricultural conference at Dacca and he thought that such conferences were good even if they were held in Calcutta As far as I can understand these farms are meant for the education and instruction of the mufassal people who are in touch with agriculture and not for persons who live in towns like Calcutta. I therefore say that the farms should be started in the mufassal and the amount should not be reduced even by one rupee if they are thought necessary for the Province. I can understand one policy. I do not like sitting on the fence and then jumping over it. I do not like condemning a thing and then voting for it.

Sir, there is another thing which I would like to point out. There is something mysterious going on in the Council. If a member has a policy, let him stick to it. I do not like the policy of condemnation on the one hand and support on the other.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Maulvi Sahib, the older you grow the more you will see of that.

Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN: So far as the grant itself is concerned, my own opinion is that the amount set down in the budget is very small and a larger amount is necessary for agricultural purposes.

Maulvi MUHAMMAD YASIN: I had the pleasure of listening to the argument advanced by some of the hon'ble members on the other side and I find that this Council has been converted into a debating club for mutual admiration. For myself. I could not understand as to why a motion of this sort was moved. Was it for consoling the Nawab Sahib, our late Minister? It seemed so from some of the speeches made. Sir it is very difficult for some of these gentlemen to understand what the agriculturists really want. They do not want your institutions, they want water for agricultural purposes. It is known to us all that in this year paddy grown on several lakhs of bighas of land, withered for want of one single shower of rain. There are so many difficulties in the way of the agriculturists but nothing is being done in those directions. So what is the use of starting these absolutely useless farms? The agriculturists want a sufficient number of tanks and a sufficient quantity of water. That is the cry. And I submit that Government should provide a large amount of money for this purpose which will do them real good.

Mr. PRESIDENT: That came under the last vote. You cannot go back to that.

Maulvi MUHAMMAD YASIN: I submit that a larger amount should be provided for the purpose of agriculture which will be really beneficial to the people. Otherwise it is absolutely useless if when we want money for agricultural improvements, we are told that you have got so many lakhs. But do the people get any benefit out of that? They don't get any benefit and no attempt has been made to provide sufficient funds for the excavation of tanks and for canal projects and I submit that these are the most essential things that we should do. If we demand money for these agricultural purposes, we are told that you are so many Neros and so many Robespierres. But, sir, are they to be found not merely on this side of the House?

Mr. PRESIDENT: We shall scarcely find them in the experimental farms, which are the subject under debate.

Maulvi MUHAMMAD YASIN: When people die of famine and a large number of them die of starvation, we are told by highly paid government officials that Government is not a charitable institution. They say charity begins at home and surely they are the real Garibaldis! We are trying to do good to the people that is why we are called Neros but I submit that real Neros are those who are getting fat salaries and are fiddling when the country is going to ruin. People are dying like cattle——

Mr. PRESIDENT: That was all discussed on the last vote, Maulvi Sahib. I have been trying to help you, but you are straying beyond the point.

Maulvi MUHAMMAD YASIN: I have nothing more to say, Sir.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Sir, I wish to say something on this subject. We have heard a great deal said by my hon'ble friend—

Mr. S. C. MUKERJI: Sir, I move that the question be now put.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I accept Mr. Mukerji's motion and I ask Mr. Donovan to reply before putting the question.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: Sir, was not Mr. Banerjee in possession of the House?

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: I am always ready to submit to the wishes of the President. No one is more so than myself. At the same time I must say that I was in possession of the House when Mr. Mukerji moved for closure. In the circumstances I submit that I am entitled to speak.

Mr. PRESIDENT: In that case you are certainly entitled to do so. I did not understand that you had risen to address the House. I gathered that both you and Mr. Mukerji had risen to points of order, but as Mr. Mukerji moved the closure I accepted it.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: As I said before that as I was in possession of the House; may I be permitted to speak, Sir?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Certainly.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Sir, we have heard a great deal from Mr. Moreno of his experience in the Central Provinces and in Allahabad and from Mr. Mukerji about his experiences at Dacca. We have had the same thing repeated several times but we have not been told as to what should be done in connection with the improvement of agriculture. Sir, I have my own experiences. I come from a village. Although I reside in Calcutta and I have the honour of representing a Calcutta constituency, still I come from a village and as my friends Mr. Mukerji and Mr. Moreno have related to the House their experiences even though we are now the wiser for it, I may also relate mine. (Cries of: "Hear, hear"). Sir, some time ago I came across a certain gentlemen who gave himself out to be a government official belonging to the Agricultural Department. (Loud cries of: "Hear, hear").

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: Sir, there is considerable disorder in the House.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I can look after the rest of the House if you assist me to keep order yourself.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: I told that gentleman that the Government was running the department on wrong lines altogether. I said that the agriculturists do not understand what the Government were doing and do not want Government to teach them how agriculture is to be done. They do not ask that from Government. All that they ask for is adequate food, better sanitation. Does not Government usually spend a large amount of money merely on establishment and not on any actual useful work? Here we have voted a large sum of money on public health.

Mr. PRESIDENT: We are not discussing Public Health. The motion is under the vote for experimental farms.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Sir, I was not travelling beyond the point I only mentioned public health by way of analogy.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You are completely off the point. If you do not pay attention to my ruling, I shall be compelled to ask you to resume your seat.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Sir, I shall not in that case refer to Public Health even by way of analogy. As regards agriculture I think that a large sum of money is proposed to be spent for the purpose of training agriculturists as to how the soil is to be prepared and so on. But from the heavy establishment you keep the agriculturist will get next to nothing. The actual result obtained is very little. I should like to be told where they have succeeded in getting agriculturists to accept their new method of agriculture—what steps have been taken for the purposes of preventing—(Loud cries of "Hear, hear.") Well, Sir, if there are interruptions like this I cannot proceed.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Well, Sir, in my district of Nadia, they have got some sort of an establishment. We do not know what definite result has been obtained from that institution there. They are spending a large sum of money to teach agriculture to the agriculturists but it is felt by many that it was sheer waste of money. That being so I think we will not be justified in voting all this money. It would be throwing away good money.

Mr. Mukerji was charmed by what he saw at Dacca as an honoured guest of the Nawab Sahib. Can he tell us whether the agriculturists at Dacca have been benefited as a result of the Conference? Sir, in this connection I want to refer to milk supply, but as you ruled me out of order when I referred to Public Health I do not know if I shall be in order in referring to milk.

Mr. PRESIDENT: There is more connection between milk production and experimental farms than there is between public health and experimental farms. You can refer to milk.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Sir, milk has become very expensive by reason of the method adopted for the purpose of securing its production. At the same time methods proposed to be employed are bound to be much more expensive than at present. In view of that we must oppose these grants. [MAULVI MD. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: It is past quarter to seven.] In coming to the question as to how all this money is going to be spent, I must say that we have not been told what steps are going to be taken for the purposes of really inducing the agriculturists to accept the so-called improved methods to be introduced by Government. In view of that I do say, and I do emphatically say, that we are being called upon to spend a very large sum of money on something which is not merely experimental and we do not know what it is going to result in, but is not likely to come to the knowledge of the agriculturers at all. In these circumstances I can only ask the House to oppose the grant. As regards the Nawab Sahib's motion he has told us that he has put forward this motion with a view to

Mr. PRESIDENT: Are you opposing the reduction?

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: The Nawab Sahib brought in his motion with a view to bring home to the Hon'ble Minister that the methods employed by the Government are not all that is desired. That being so how can he in the same breath support the grants asked for. That is the thing what puzzles me most and that puzzle only can be solved by the Nawab Sahib himself. I do not know whether the Hon'ble Minister himself is puzzled or not. It must have appeared to most of the members as being worse than a Chinese puzzle.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Have you finished, Mr. Banerjee? It is now time to adjourn the House.

[At this many members of the House rose from their seats and there was considerable noise.]

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have not yet adjourned the House and it would have been better if members had waited until I had done so. The House will lose nothing by observing a little more dignity in its proceedings.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: We are trying to do it Sir, but you treat us like school children.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I must ask you to withdraw that expression, Mr. Nurul Huq Chaudhury.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I withdraw.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You must withdraw in proper form. You must turn towards the Chair and address me while withdrawing the expression.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY (*turning towards the Chair*): I withdraw.

Adjournment.

The Council was then adjourned till 10-30 A.M. on Saturday, the 29th March, 1924, at the Town Hall, Calcutta.

Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council [illegible]bled under the provisions of the Government of India Act.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in the Town Hall, Calcutta, on Saturday, the 29th March, 1924, at 10-30 A.M.

Present:

The Hon'ble the President in the Chair, the four Hon'ble Members of the Executive Council, the two Hon'ble Ministers, and 116 nominated and elected members.

Starred Questions

(to which oral answers were given).

New Howrah Bridge Bill.

***XCIV. Sir GEORGE GODFREY:** (*a*) In view of the statement made by Government in their communication of the 27th October, 1923, that a Bill will be laid before the Bengal Legislative Council during the winter session in connection with the New Howrah Bridge, will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Marine Department be pleased to state when the Bill will be published for criticism?

(*b*) If the Bill is not to be introduced in this session, will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state the reason for the delay?

MEMBER in charge of MARINE DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald): (*a*) and (*b*) The Bill will be published for criticism when the sanction of the Government of India is received.

Agricultural Demonstrators.

***XCV. Maulvi SAYEDAL HOQUE:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Agriculture and Industries be pleased to state—

(*i*) the names of the Agricultural Demonstrators with their headquarters posted in the district of Noakhali;

(*ii*) the amount that was spent in the year 1922-23 to maintain them;

(*iii*) the sum that was given to them for buying seed, etc., during the said period; and

(*iv*) the results obtained in that year from these demonstrations?

(*b*) Was any inquiry instituted to ascertain public opinion as to the popularity of these Demonstrators and the nature of benefit the public has derived through them?

(*c*) If so, will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state the nature of the inquiry and the results obtained therefrom?

(*d*) What steps have the Government taken or are going to take to introduce better and up-to-date methods amongst the cultivators of the agricultural districts of Bengal?

(*e*) How many men in Bengal since the opening of this Department, have qualified themselves in agriculture?

(*f*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state whether those qualified men are now in service or are following an independent Agricultural life?

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE and INDUSTRIES (the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Ghuznavi): (*a*) (*i*) The names of Demonstrators of Noakhali district with their headquarters are given below:—

(1) Munshi Manowar Ali—Feni.

(2) Babu Hiralal Banerjee—Feni (office).

(3) Munshi Abdul Latiff—Basurhat.

(4) Munshi Abdur Razzak—Choumohini.

(5) Babu Nabin Chandra De—Harinarainpur (Noakhali).

(6) Babu Sadhu Charan Mandal—Fulgazi.

(*ii*) Pay, travelling allowance and house allowance of the above-named Demonstrators cost Rs. 2,659.

(*iii*) Seeds, manures, etc., worth Rs. 344 were allotted to the district for demonstration purpose and for sale.

(*iv*) Demonstration of castor cake as a manure for potatoes, and of Tanna sugarcane were successful. Trials with cotton and Matihari tobacco gave unsatisfactory results, but are being repeated. As a result of demonstrations carried out, a beginning was made with the sale of the seed of departmentally improved paddy and jute; also Tanna cane, Dhaincha seed, bone-meal, and castor cake.

(*b*) and (*c*) No public inquiry was made, but departmental reports indicate that only one Demonstrator did satisfactory work.

(*d*) The member is referred to answer to question No. 68 (*a*) by Babu Jogendra Nath Roy at the meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council held on 22nd November, 1921. The member is further referred to the speech of the Minister in charge of Agriculture and Industries, during the general discussion of the budget on the 29th February, 1924.

(*e*) Passed from—

Sabour College	...	...	61
Pusa	...	...	1
Nagpur	...	...	1
Dacca Agricultural School	...	..	32
Chinsura School	...	...	12

(*f*) The information is not available.

Question of reserving seats in Dacca Medical School for students of depressed classes.

***XCVI. Dr. MOHINI MOHON DAS:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) the principle adopted in forming the Committee for selecting candidates for admission into the Dacca Medical School; and

(*ii*) whether any representative of the depressed classes will be included in the Committee?

(*b*) If the answer to (*a*) (*ii*) is in the negative, will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state whether the Government are intending to take such representatives in future?

(*c*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state whether any seats in the schools are reserved for the students of the depressed classes?

(*d*) Is the Hon'ble the Minister aware that there are reserved seats for the Muhammadan students?

(*e*) If the answer to (*c*) is in the negative, are the Government considering the desirability of reserving seats for the students of the depressed classes before the coming session?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT [MEDICAL] (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq): (*a*) (*i*) The Committee consists of 9 members of whom 3 are officials selected from the staff of the school and 5 are leading non-official gentlemen of the Dacca town who take an interest in the school. One non-official member, viz., Babu Annada Charan Dutta was appointed to safeguard the interests of the candidates coming from the Chittagong Division.

(*ii*) It is not possible for Government to appoint on the Committee members representing the interests of the various communities

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) A certain number of seats are reserved for the Muhammadan community and three seats are also reserved for Buddhists.

(*e*) The answer is in the negative. Government are of opinion that beyond the reservations referred to above any further extension of the system would be inadvisable, as it is liable to lead to the admission of candidates whose qualifications do not reach a sufficiently high standard.

Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY: Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state whether there are Buddhist students in the Dacca Medical School?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: No information is available, but if I have notice I will answer this question.

Dr. MOHINI MOHON DAS: When seats are reserved for Muhammadan students why should not seats be reserved for students of other communities?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: So far as this question is concerned, in the case of Muhammadans there is a large number of candidates coming forward. If candidates from other communities come forward and Government find it necessary to make a reservation of seats they will certainly consider that question.

Peon's uniforms.

***XCVII. Mr. S. N. HALDAR:** With reference to the reply given to clause (*ii*) of starred question No. LXIX put by me at the meeting held on the 12th March, 1924, will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Finance be pleased to state whether the Government are considering the desirability of issuing orders to the effect that indigenous and swadeshi cloths be used for the uniforms of chaprasis and peons henceforth?

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of FINANCE (the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald): The member is referred to the reply given to clause (*ii*) of starred question No. LXIX. Government do not propose to interfere with the discretion of local officers in this matter.

Sub-deputy Collectors.

***XCVIII. Maulvi ABDUR RASHID KHAN:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Appointment Department be pleased to state whether it is in the contemplation of the Government to revise

the pay of the Sub-deputy Collectors according to the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee? If so, when?

(*b*) Has the attention of the Hon'ble the Member been drawn to the grievances of the Kanungos promoted to the rank of Sub-deputy Collectors who, under the present system, get the initial pay of Sub-deputy Collectors while they used to get Rs. 100 and Sub-deputy Collectors Rs. 50 under the old system as their starting pay?

(*c*) Are the Government considering the desirability of adopting such measures as will enable the Kanungos promoted to the rank of Sub-deputy Collectors to have a reasonable chance of reaching the maximum grade before their retirement?

MEMBER in charge of APPOINTMENT DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson): (*a*) The whole question of the revision of pay of the Provincial and Subordinate services is under consideration in the light of the report of the Retrenchment Committee. The revision of the pay of Sub-deputy Collectors is awaiting decision in the matter of revision of the pay of the Bengal Civil Service. It is not intended that any officer already in a service shall be prejudicially affected by any decision that may be arrived at.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative. As Kanungos now start on Rs. 150 on promotion, it is difficult to see where the grievance arises.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative.

State prisoners in Midnapore Central Jail.

***XCIX. Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Revenue (Jails) be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the State prisoners in the Midnapore Central Jail were given convict diet from the 20th October to the 5th November, 1923?

(*b*) Is the Hon'ble the Member aware—

(*i*) that Sir Henry Wheeler declared in the Council that the State prisoners were given home comforts;

(*ii*) that on former occasions food and clothing were supplied to the State prisoners according to their choice and requirements; and

(*iii*) that at present they are allowed European convicts' dress with two dhoties recently changed to six dhoties a year?

(*c*) Is the Hon'ble the Member aware that the State prisoners were allowed two letters in a week in 1920 and each cover could contain as many letters as they required?

(*d*) Is the Hon'ble the Member also aware that they are now allowed only one letter in a week?

(*e*) Are the Government considering the desirability of reverting to the old practice in this matter?

(*f*) Is the Hon'ble the Member aware that no *alwans*, sweaters, woollen socks, shoes or slippers have been supplied to the State prisoners in the Midnapore Jail?

(*g*) Is the Hon'ble the Member aware that there are no adequate arrangements for games and exercises for the State prisoners at Midnapore?

(*h*) Is the Hon'ble the Member aware that petitions to the Government from the State prisoners have been withheld by the Jail authorities at Midnapore?

(*i*) Is the Hon'ble the Member aware that the relations of the State prisoners are granted interviews on condition that no inquiry is to be made into jail grievances?

(*j*) Is the Hon'ble the Member aware that books like "Raja O Praja" by Rabindra Nath Tagore and Maxim Gorky's "Mother" are withheld by the censor from reaching the State prisoners?

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of REVENUE [JAILS] (the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson): (*a*) Yes; with the substitution of hospital rice for ordinary rice. As soon as this was brought to the notice of Government the necessary orders were issued and they are now allowed food according to their own choice, subject to a maximum daily expenditure of Re. 1-4-0 per head.

(*b*) (*i*) The reference cannot be traced.

(*ii*) On former occasions they were treated differently in different jails practically according to the discretion of the Superintendent and no scales were prescribed either as regards food or clothing. This gave rise to dissatisfaction on transfer from one jail to another, and Government have therefore on this occasion issued rules for the uniform treatment of State prisoners in respect of diet and clothing.

(*iii*) No, but if they do not wear their own clothes, they are allowed special, not convict, clothing. Originally two dhoties were allowed; now six are supplied which are renewed when unserviceable.

(*c*) In 1920 the State prisoners who remained were all reclassified as Y class prisoners, and as such they were allowed two letters a week. The rule did not and does not permit of one cover containing as many letters as the State prisoners required, though it has been ascertained that this was allowed in some jails without, however, the authority of Government.

(*d*) X class State prisoners are allowed only one letter a week, Y class two.

(*e*) The question does not arise.

(*f*) *Alwans*, cotton, not woollen, socks, and slippers have been supplied; shoes are being provided. Sweaters are not provided.

(*g*) There are ample arrangements for games and exercises.

(*h*) No.

(*i*) Under the rules visitors other than those who are nominated as non-official visitors are not allowed to discuss jail administration.

(*j*) The answer is in the affirmative.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: May I ask the Honble Member to state the reason please why now all the State prisoners are classed as X instead of Y class as before?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: There is none.

Mr. NISITH CHANDRA SEN: Will the Hon'ble Member be pleased to state the grounds on which Dr. Tagore's "Raja O Praja" was rejected?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: The contents were not considered to be suitable.

Babu ANILBARAN RAY: Is the Hon'ble Member aware that State prisoners in Midnapore have stopped writing letters as a protest against one letter a week?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: Not so far as I am aware. I know nothing about it.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: May I ask the Hon'ble Member whether there are any State prisoners who are classed as Y class prisoners now?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: Yes.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: How many of them are detained under Regulation III?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I could not say all that. We are now talking about something else.

Conduct of Babu Jatindra Nath Bhattacharji, a police officer, while deputed to Jambani thana during Santhal raid.

***C. Mr. SATCOWRIPATI ROY:** (*a*) Is the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Police Department aware that when the Santhal raid in the pargana Jambani in the district of Midnapore took place the proprietor of the said Estate levied a tax upon the tenants of the whole pargana as compensation for the loss he suffered in these raids?

(*b*) Is the Hon'ble the Member aware—

(*i*) that the police officer Babu Jatindra Nath Bhattacharji specially deputed at that time in that pargana actually wrote to the officer of the Jambani thana to inform the tenants through chaukidars to pay that tax within seven days from the date of the information;

(*ii*) that the thana officer made that letter a part of his diary and actually informed the tenants through chaukidars to make the payment of that tax within seven days?

(*c*) Is the Hon'ble the Member aware—

(*i*) that a large sum was thus realised by the proprietor;

(*ii*) that the tenants appealed to the District Magistrate of Midnapore;

(*iii*) that the Subdivisional Officer of Jhargram intervened in the matter; and

(*iv*) the sum realised was paid back to the tenants on that intervention?

(*d*) If the answer to (*b*) and (*c*) are in the affirmative, will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state what steps, if any, have the Government taken against the said police officer Babu Jatindra Nath Bhattacharji?

MEMBER in charge of POLICE DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson): (*a*), (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) The facts are as stated, and disciplinary action has been taken against the officer responsible.

Defalcation in the Excise Department.

***Cl. Maulvi ABDUL QUADER:** (*a*) With reference to the reply given on the 29th February, 1924, to starred question No. LIV, will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Agriculture and Industries be pleased to state—

(*i*) the result of the proceedings drawn up against Rai Sarat Kumar Raha Bahadur, the then Excise Commissioner concerned;

(*ii*) whether Rai Bahadur Sarat Kumar Raha was punished in any way whatsoever as a result of the said proceedings;

(*iii*) whether there was any report of the Accountant-General on the said case of defalcation;

(*iv*) whether there was also a report of the Finance Department; and

(*v*) whether it is a fact that the said reports were against the said Rai Bahadur?

(*b*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to lay on the table copies of the reports referred to in (*iii*) and (*iv*) above?

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN GHUZNAVI: (*a*) (*i*) and (*ii*) The Rai Bahadur was held to be blameless in regard to the defalcation. He was, however, held to have failed in this instance to appreciate what is required of the head of a department and to have failed also in controlling his staff satisfactorily. The view taken by Government was communicated to him officially.

(*iii*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*iv*) The answer is in the negative, but the Department, of course, noted on the file at various stages.

(*v*) The report of the Accountant-General indicated what appeared to be faults on the part of the Rai Bahadur.

(*b*) The Committee on Public Accounts have had the case under their consideration in connection with the Audit Report for 1922-23 and will report in due course to this Council. Government are not prepared to lay any further papers on the table.

Alleged contemplated arrest under Bengal Regulation III of 1818.

***CII. Mr. S. N. HALDAR:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Political Department be pleased to state whether Government contemplate arresting further persons under the Bengal Regulation III of 1818?

(*b*) If so, how many persons are to be arrested?

(*c*) Are the Government considering the desirability of disclosing their names?

(*d*) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Political Department be pleased to state whether the Government of Bengal recommended or suggested to the Government of India, the name of Srijut Purna Chandra Das, Assistant Secretary to the Bengal Provincial Congress Committee, and the name of Srijut Bepin Gangooly and that they should be dealt with under the Bengal Reguation III of 1818?

(*e*) What was the nature of the allegations against these two gentlemen?

(*f*) When were such recommendations or suggestions made?

(*g*) Will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state whether the Government of Bengal have recommended or suggested any further names to the Government of India for them to apply Bengal Regulation III of 1818 against such persons so recommended?

(*h*) Will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state the grounds on which Purna Chandra Das and Bepin Gangooly have been arrested?

(*i*) Have these gentlemen been informed of the charges against them?

(*j*) If so, was it done in writing or was the information conveyed orally?

(*k*) Have these gentlemen given any reply to these charges?

(*l*) If so, will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to lay copies of those replies on the table?

MEMBER in charge of POLITICAL DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson): (*a*) to (*h*) The general policy of Government has been publicly declared and Government are not prepared to answer these questions in detail.

(*i*) Yes.

(*j*) In writing.

(*k*) Yes.

(*l*) The answer is in the negative.

Mr. S. N. HALDAR: Will the Hon'ble the Member kindly say why he could not give the answer in detail?

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I have nothing further to add to my answer.

Mr. PRESIDENT (the Hon'ble Mr. H. E. A. Cotton): The question does not arise. You asked your question and you have had your answer. There is no obligation to answer any question. You must take it as you get it.

Mr. S. N. HALDAR: May I not know the reason why the Hon'ble Member refused to answer this question? I know it is useless to ask questions in this Council.

Mr. PRESIDENT. That may be so. The Hon'ble Member is under no obligation to answer.

Unstarred Questions

(answers to which were laid on the table).

Proportion of Muhammadans in the offices of Land Acquisition Collector, and Collector of Calcutta.

143. Maulvi FAZLAL KARIM CHOWDHURY: Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Revenue (Land Revenue) be pleased to state how far effect has been given to the Government circular of 1914, fixing the proportion of Muhammadans at one-third of the total number of employees in the office of the—

(*i*) Land Acquisition Collector, and

(*ii*) The Calcutta Collectorate?

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of REVENUE [LAND REVENUE] (the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan): (*i*) During the period from May, 1914, to December, 1917, no appointments of Muhammadans were made; the appointments were mainly filled up by recruitment from the trained staff of the Alipore Land Acquisition office. During the period 1918—23, 36 appointments were made, of which 11 appointments were given to Muhammadans; of these, two left on obtaining permanent posts elsewhere, one died, two resigned and four were discharged when the Third Land Acquisition Collector's office was abolished. At present there are 28 clerks in the First and Second Land Acquisition offices, of whom two are Muhammadans.

(*ii*) Between the period 1914-15 and 1916-17, there were eight vacancies in the Calcutta Collectorate and three Muhammadan probationers were appointed. Between the period 1917-18 and 1922-23, 20 appointments were made, of which five were given to Muhammadans.

Gabkhan Burhani Khal.

144. Maulvi FAZLAL KARIM CHOWDHURY: (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Marine Department be pleased to state—

(*i*) what length of distance, if any, has been decreased by the excavation of the Gabkhan Khal in the district of Bakarganj for the steamer service running between Barisal and Khulna and *vice versa;*

(*ii*) what was the distance between Barisal and Khulna previous to November, 1918, when the steamer used to ply *via* Rajapur and what was the passenger fare;

(*iii*) what is the fare charged per mile by the Rivers Steam Navigation Company between Barisal and Khulna and *vice versa*?

(*iv*) what is the distance by river between:—

(*a*) Jhalakati and Kaukhali,

(*b*) Jhalakati and Shakerhat,

(*c*) Shakerhat and Juluhar Steamer ghats,

as also between Shakerhat and Kaukhali and the passenger fares charged in each case?

(*b*) Will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state the cost incurred by Government for the excavation of the Gabkhan Khal and what proportion, if any, was met by the steamer companies—Rivers Steam Navigation and India General Navigation?

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: (*a*) (*i*) The reduction in distance by the Gabkhan Burhani Khal, as compared with the Angeria Creek, is 7 miles.

(*ii*) The distance was 104 miles and the passenger fare was—Third class Re. 1-11-9 or 3 pies per mile.

(*iii*) Third class fare is Rs. 2-3-3 or 4 pies per mile.

(*iv*) Owing to constant changes in the rivers and consequent variations in channels it is impossible to give accurate mileage.

The third class fares between the following stations are—

	R. A. P.
Jhalakati and Kaukhali	... 0-6-9
Jhalakati and Shakerhat	... 0-2-3
Shakerhat and Juluhar	... 0-1-0
Shakerhat and Kaukhali	... 0-5-3

(*b*) The cost of improving the Gabkhan Burhani Khal was Rs. 7,36,000. The steamer companies were not asked to pay towards the cost of improvement which was made with the object of avoiding very heavy maintenance charges on the Angeria Creek.

Jetties on Hooghly river connected with mills.

145. Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY: (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Marine Department be pleased to state how many jetties have been constructed over the river Hooghly for the different mills?

(*b*) Is the Hon'ble the Member aware that the construction of the jetties for the mills has resulted in the formation of *chars*?

(*c*) Is the Hon'ble the Member also aware that these *chars* have shortened the width of the river?

(*d*) Is the Hon'ble the Member aware that the public have been inconvenienced in the matter of plying their boats in the river?

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: (*a*) There are 106 jetties and pontoon jetties on the river Hooghly connected with mills.

(*b*) These jetties are not considered to have caused *chars* to form in the river.

(*c*) and (*d*) These questions do not arise.

Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY: Will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to obtain expert opinion on the subject?

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: That is a question of action.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It is out of order.

Director of Industries.

146. Babu MANMOHON NEOGI: Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Agriculture and Industries be pleased to state—

(*i*) what is the qualification of the present Director of Industries;

(*ii*) when was he appointed to his present post and at what initial pay;

(*iii*) what is his present monthly salary;

(*iv*) what is the nature of his functions; and

(*v*) what is the amount of travelling allowance he has drawn in the last financial year?

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: (*i*) He holds the degrees of M.A., and D.Sc. of the Glasgow University with the highest training in Mathematics, Electricity, Chemistry, Geology and Mechanics. He also worked for 2 years as Assistant Controller and Controller of Munitions, Bengal.

(*ii*) On 1st January, 1920, on Rs. 2,000 per mensem.

(*iii*) Rs. 2,200 per mensem.

(*iv*) Initiation and guiding of research; collection of information about sources of raw materials and about existing small and cottage industries; examination of methods and experiments for improving them and demonstration of the results; organisation of exhibits; helping industries to find markets; helping them to get coal and railway, financial, gas, electric, and water, facilities; helping to get them put on the suppliers' lists of the Government of India; devising and selecting labour-saving appliances; giving instructions about lay-out of machinery; control and improvement of technical and industrial education; inspection of such educational institutions; devising schemes for developing such education.

(*v*) Rs. 2,176-10-0 in 1922-23.

Acquisition of lands for Pirojpur High School.

147. Rai SATYENDRA NATH ROY CHAUDHURI Bahadur: (*a*) Is the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Education aware—

(*i*) that the Pirojpur High School was converted into a Government school long ago;

(*ii*) that for the location of the said school and its hostels about 18 bighas of land have been acquired in the heart of the town thereby evicting many gentlemen of the locality;

(*iii*) that the lands so acquired have not been utilised for a long time?

(*b*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state whether Government contemplate using the land actually for purposes of the school?

(*c*) If so, is the Hon'ble the Minister in a position to state when the land will be so used?

(*d*) If the land is not intended to be used for the purposes of the school, are the Government considering the desirability of returning the lands to the original proprietors or of subletting them to suitable persons on proper terms?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq): (*a*) (*i*) Yes. This was done in 1909.

(*ii*) The statement is correct.

(*iii*) Yes, the major portion of the plot was acquired in 1914-15.

(*b*) Government have every desire to utilise the lands for the purpose for which they have been acquired at as early a date as possible, but no definite steps could be taken up to now owing to financial stringency. A recent scheme had to be rejected as being too expensive.

(*c*) No definite date can yet be given but matters will be accelerated by the extent to which members come forward to co-operate with Government in putting the scheme into operation.

(*d*) In view of the previous answers, the question does not arise.

Ballot for election of Committee Members.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I may remind the members that the ballot for the election of members to the Committee on Public Accounts will take place in the Council Chamber at 2-30 P.M. on Monday next, the 31st instant.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: Sir, may I, on a question of procedure, ask whether, if the business of supplementary demand is finished to-day before time, the ordinary budget can be taken up after that?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am afraid I cannot give an answer to that. I have not had His Excellency's orders on the subject. Perhaps the Hon'ble Mr. Donald may be able to make a statement.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: This day is set apart for supplementary demands and not for the ordinary budget.

Mr. PRESIDENT: That was the effect of the announcement I made yesterday.

[illegible]tary Demands for Grants.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: I move that a sum of Rs. 32,000 be granted to meet the probable excess expenditure under the head "7.—Stamps."

We have got to pay for the stamps supplied to us by the Central Stores. This has been explained in the memorandum which has been circulated to members.

Maulvi SAYEDAL HOQUE: I move that the demand of Rs. 32,000 to meet the probable excess expenditure under the head "7.—Stamps" be refused.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I want to ask one question of the Finance Member. The memorandum which was circulated on the 23rd February stated that the increase of Rs. 32,000 was due to probable excess expenditure under stamps. To-day is the 29th of March. Is the Hon'ble Member prepared to give us some further figures as to whether the increased expenditure due to stamps supplied from the Central Stores is counterbalanced by any increased receipts such as is printed in the memorandum circulated?

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: It has been explained that we are providing for expenditure along with an estimated increase of receipts. We cannot tell the figure at the present moment but we are guarding ourselves against an excess in the grant; we may not spend the full amount this year. This is an estimate. All this is the charge we have got to pay to the Central Stores on account of the stamps we expect to use. We do not pay for what we do not get.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. G. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Beroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haldar, Mr. S. N.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjee, Babu Tarakanath.
Neogi, Babu Manmohan.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. B. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.

Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nistik Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajib Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chainuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Cattle, Mr. J.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prasad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Srie Chandra.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Suhrawardy, Major Hassan.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 52 and the Noes 51, the motion was carried.

Saloons for His Excellency.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I move that a sum of Rs. 10,000 be granted for the construction of two new broad gauge saloons for His Excellency the Governor.

I may explain at the outset that inasmuch as to-day is the 29th of the month this money, if granted, will not be used this year at all, but I have brought this forward nevertheless in order to have an opportunity of explaining the position to the Council. In the ordinary course of business, it would not be necessary to put in a supplementary demand because we cannot spend any part of the money this year, but I have taken this opportunity as I did not have an opportunity during the budget debate, and that would have in any case been an inconvenient time, to explain what the actual position is. The broad gauge saloons of His Excellency were built in 1902. At the time of the repartition of Bengal we endeavoured to get the Bihar and Orissa Government to take over these saloons as their part of the division.

However they preferred to have a new one and the Bengal Government were therefore unable to get rid of the old ones. The saloons

comprise one which contains sleeping accommodation for His Excellency and Lady Lytton, and in the same carriage there is a certain amount of dining accommodation. His Excellency has therefore for himself and Her Excellency only one saloon with no privacy whatsoever and that saloon is his working room, his eating room, and sleeping room. It is very out of date—these saloons were built at a time when the comfortable construction of saloons was not so well understood as it is to-day. The second saloon is the staff saloon in which I have myself travelled on many occasions when I was Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. It is not nearly as comfortable as an ordinary first class carriage. At the end of the staff saloon there is a sort of cattle pen in which the servants travel; and in addition to that there is the kitchen carriage where meals are prepared. Well, Sir, the kitchen carriage has for the last year or so been declared to be unsafe to run and the railway authorities will not put it on to any train. Therefore, in any case, something has got to be done. That being so, we consulted the railway authorities and they say that there are three possible alternatives. In the first place, they say that they can remodel the staff carriage into a combined kitchen and dining carriage. That will mean that there will be no accommodation for the staff and we should have to hire a first class carriage; and the staff and the servants will be completely cut off from His Excellency during the time he will be travelling. The cost of remodelling the staff saloon will be Rs. 12,000. If the other saloons are to continue in use, they must also be overhauled; and as I have said the saloons were very badly designed the wiring was wrongly done, the pipes were wrongly placed and the railway authorities will not guarantee that when the roofs as well as the bodies are thoroughly overhauled they will not find it necessary to rebuild it altogether and the least they can do the overhauling for is Rs. 40,500. They warn us, however, that it is at least likely that this will not be the actual cost as they say that the entire wood-work of the carriage may have to be rebuilt. That is the first alternative.

The second alternative is to combine the dining and kitchen carriage, cutting off the staff saloon and to entirely rebuild His Excellency's saloon on the present frame-work. That will cost us Rs. 60,500; but for that sum we could get accommodation which would carry us on for some years; but it would not give us satisfactory accommodation because the old frame is not adapted for building a really satisfactory saloon. Therefore, the railway authorities strongly advise us that two entirely new saloons should be built—one for His Excellency and the other for the staff and dining room. The cost of both these saloons will amount to Rs. 1½ lakhs; but the railway authorities would allow us Rs. 25,000 for the present frame-work. Sir, there is another point and it is this; when we are considering the matter of rebuilding these saloons, we must remember that they will be laid up for the best part of a year and during that time we shall have to hire saloons for His

Excellency and that will cost us a considerable amount if we have to hire a saloon from the railway. On the other hand, if we build new saloons, we shall be saved the cost of hiring saloons and we shall get Rs. 25,000 as the sale price of the old saloons. Therefore, considering the difference between the two courses, viz., the remodelling of the existing saloons which will amount to Rs. 60,500 and the cost of building new saloons which is estimated to amount to Rs. 1½ lakhs, we shall have to reckon in a considerable amount on hiring saloons until the old ones are rebuilt. On the other hand, if we do what the railway authorities advise us to do, viz., to build new saloons, we shall have thoroughly up-to-date saloons which will last 30—40 years without any alterations. The railway people inform us that the existing saloons are the most out of date in India. The saloons of Their Excellencies the Governors of Madras and Bombay are up-to-date and far better than ours. The Government of Bihar and Orissa has recently built new broad gauge saloons which are far better than those we have here. Therefore, Sir, we, the Governor in Council, came to the conclusion that on the whole the most satisfactory thing to do is to build two new saloons and be done with the matter. We have obtained the sanction of the Secretary of State to the building of these saloons, provided the Council agree. The reason why I have brought forward the supplementary estimate now is that the Council might understand what the alternatives are and might be able to advise us what they would prefer us to adopt. Personally I think the most economical thing is to build two new saloons.

Babu UMES CHANDRA CHATTERJEE: The motion that stands in my name is that the demand of Rs. 10,000 for the construction of two new broad gauge saloons for His Excellency the Governor be refused.

Now, Sir, I must confess it is a very daring act on my part to move such an amendment, for I am a poor Indian and His Excellency is a Lord of the British Isles and a Governor ruling over destinies. Then what is there which emboldens me to commit this daring act? In reply, I beg to submit, I feel an inspiration from above before which the frowns of terror are powerless.

Sir, you are a member of a great nation and you know how sweet liberty is. I need not tell you, whatever is sweet is bound to taste sweet to each one and every one. Why then will liberty not taste sweet to the Indians? But then liberty is a very dear commodity and few people in India have the capacity to pay the price for it. Hence it is that the Government have got so many supporters behind them.

Indians have been given a country which is self-contained. Their predecessors committed sin in allowing the foreigners to come in as their saviours instead of themselves devising means for their salvation. The negation of self-reliance is a great sin for which we, the

posterity, have been suffering and undergoing penance. In this way that sin has been thinned and the mercy of the mighty father is slowly coming down upon us revealing to us the sweetness of liberty. Thus we have been on the look-out for means.

Now what are these means? They are two-fold, namely, bloody revolution or peaceful non-co-operation.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Umes Babu, your remarks are very wide from the point. We are only concerned with the reasons for refusing this grant and any question of revolution, bloody or otherwise, has absolutely nothing to do with the subject under discussion.

Babu UMES CHANDRA CHATTERJEE: I am not considering the merits of the motion. I want to submit why I have brought this motion. I must state all the reasons.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You are not in order in going into the question of revolution.

Babu UMES CHANDRA CHATTERJEE: If that be your decision, I must bow to it and sit down.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I must confess that it is an extremely delicate matter, and therefore, I was hesitating whether I should speak on this matter, but, Sir, I felt that I should be shirking my duty if I did not give expression to the feelings and wishes of our people on this matter. The grant in question is no doubt rather a small one, but all the same there is a feeling in the country on this question which, as I have already said, I should be failing in my duty if out of delicacy or some other consideration I did not give expression to that opinion. Now, Sir, we need not argue over the question; the fact is as we all know the people are not willing to make this grant Now, apart from the merits of this grant, I wonder if His Excellency when he comes to know, the real feelings of the people, will not think it ungracious and ungrateful to accept this grant from an unwilling people? It sometimes happens as is well-known kings always live alone, the kings live apart they are not in real and intimate touch with the feelings and wishes of the people. I am quite sure if the real feelings and wishes of the people are represented to His Excellency he will hesitate thrice before accepting a grant like this from the hands of the people who are most unwilling to make this grant. What is the object of these saloons and other things? It may be either for real or legitimate comforts or it may be for the sake of prestige and dignity. These are the only two conceivable considerations upon which such grants may be asked for. As regards comforts, I do not think, it can be seriously urged that it is indispensable. We hear, Sir, and I think, the newspaper reports are not incorrect that even our Prime Minister at the present moment travels third class.

Mr. PRESIDENT: What do you know about that? Do you know it to be a fact?

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: That is what the newspapers say. I do not know.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Besides seeing the newspapers you should have some other confirmation of it.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I am inclined to believe it because we have received no contradiction of it.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: Sir, it is not unlikely.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: We know that even Mr. Gladstone used to travel third class. Therefore, we might just consider this aspect of the question. There is the Prime Minister travelling third class; under him is the Secretary of State for India and under the Secretary of State is the Governor-General and Viceroy; then comes the provincial Governors and if the Prime Minister can do without such luxuries certainly the provincial Governors can do without them. I do not know and I have no experience of England, but you know, Sir, whether such saloons are indispensable in England for such officials as the provincial Governor of Bengal There is no line of demarcation between what is necessity and what is luxury. It all depends on the stand-point from which you look at it. We people are so poor that we cannot think of, I must confess, higher luxuries, but so far as we can understand, I think a first class reserved compartment ought to be enough in these days for anybody in the world. We have been told many things about the disadvantages and discomforts of the existing saloons, but these are matters which I must confess I am unable to go into and I also confess I have no idea of what a saloon is. I have seen that word in the dictionary and that is all my knowledge about it, and I believe 99 per cent. of the people of this Province or of India have no idea of what a saloon is, although they are asked to give their assent to these sorts of things. This is the first conceivable object for a grant like this. The second consideration is whether it is necessary for the dignity and prestige of a Governor to have a saloon. On that point I feel that in a country like India if you want to capture the imagination of the people it is not by saloons or luxuries or pomp or grandeur but by something else. Here in this country the word Rajarshi is associated with the idea of a King and if there is one single individual at the present moment who can be said to be the uncrowned King or Emperor of India it is Mahatma Gandhi (hear, hear). Is there any pomp or grandeur about him by which he has captured the imagination of the people? It is quite the reverse. Therefore I cannot for a moment believe that in the interest of dignity or prestige it is necessary. Now, much has been said that something must be done about these saloons. Well, it occurs to me

that because you have wasted some money in the past you ought to throw away some more money after it. That is an argument which I cannot very much appreciate. As I have said, Sir, it is a very delicate matter and therefore from what I have said I feel that I have already transgressed the limits and I feel that I should be disrespectful to His Excellency if I go further. With these words, therefore, I take the opportunity of giving the expression of the opinion and feelings and wishes of the people.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I move that the demand of Rs. 10,000 for the construction of two broad gauge saloons for His Excellency the Governor be reduced by Re. 1.

As will be observed from the motion, it is not my purpose to discuss whether His Excellency should be given a saloon in consideration of the fact that he represents His Majesty the King in this Province, or whether in view of the fact that, as Babu Akhil Chandra Datta has said, the Prime Minister of Great Britain happens to travel third class, His Excellency as the head of the executive and not as a representative of the King, should travel third class. These questions I do not propose to raise at the present moment, nor do I propose to say anything on the question that has been raised by the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson as to which of the alternatives which have been put forward by the railway authorities we should accept, because I believe in these matters it is better to leave the decision to those who are best able to judge, and also whether we should accept the proposal on the basis of such opinion as the experts may give on it. But what I want to ask the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson particularly with reference to this question are these:

The first point is that on page 2 of the memorandum I find it is said that last year the sum of Rs. 60,000 was provided as a non-voted item for similar purposes. But in the first line of the same page it is said that the Secretary of State has agreed to place this proposal before the Council. I would ask the Hon'ble Member what has occasioned this change of attitude with regard to this item that although at one time it was a non-voted item, it has now been put forward as a voted item? If, Sir, I am ignorant of the procedure of the Council, it is due to the fact that I am a new member and I hope Sir Hugh Stephenson will give the information I want to elicit.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: Perhaps it would be more satisfactory if I answered this question now. The provision was made in the budget of last year in anticipation of the possibility of orders of the Secretary of State being received, and until the Secretary of State's orders are received the money cannot be spent in any case. It cannot be placed before this Council as a voted item until the Secretary of State's orders are received. Any provision we may put in the budget as a non-voted item is merely a provision which

we have to transfer, on receipt of the Secretary of State's order, from the non-voted to the voted head, so as to obtain the vote of the Council.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I am very glad, Sir, that the Hon'ble Member has explained the point. I take it that the direction of the Secretary of State was to make it a voted item and to place it before the Council.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I am afraid I have not made myself quite understood. It is an ordinary and necessary procedure that you must provide your money first in the budget but you must not put it as a voted item until the Secretary of State sanctions it. On receipt of this sanction you have to make it a voted item and come to this Council and obtain its sanction.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: Very well, Sir, the second point is that there is no chance of the Rs. 10,000 being spent before the 31st March, 1924. Under the circumstances, I wonder why the Hon'ble Member has come up with this demand. There is another consideration from which I have brought this motion: and that is I find under heading 2, Rs. 1,50,000 has been set apart for the purpose of finding the cost of the saloon: and that item, as it happened had already been thrown out by the vote of the Council. Unless and until His Excellency takes up the question and decides what he is going to do as regards the bigger allotment, I do not see any purpose in asking us to vote with regard to this sum of Rs 10,000, especially as that sum, according to the Hon'ble Member's own admission, is not likely to be spent within the 31st March, 1924.

The third reason why I brought up this proposal was with regard to the procedure adopted with regard to this matter. When the memorandum was circulated on the 14th of February last I believe the vote would have been asked some time later than that. We are asked to vote Rs. 10,000 as expenditure for this year. The total cost of the saloons is expected to amount to Rs. 1,50,000. My difficulty under these circumstances is that if we had agreed to the expenditure of Rs. 10,000 on the 18th or 20th February last; and then, as it happened, if the sum of Rs. 1,50,000 was not voted by the Council, our vote for Rs. 10,000 would have come to nothing. On the other hand, if we had voted Rs. 10,000, we would have been told that we were arguing against the Governor getting the new saloons. If we had voted Rs. 10,000 on the 18th February, would not our vote have been a tacit approval on the part of the members of the Council? Although the expenditure to be incurred this year is small, yet having practically given our tacit approval to the proposal, when the demand for the bigger grant came up before the Council, we would have been told that having agreed to the expenditure of Rs. 10,000 and orders

being booked with the railway authorities, we would be under a moral obligation not to throw out the demand for Rs. 1,50,000 which would have been included in the next year's budget.

With regard to this demand for Rs. 10,000 asked for on the 18th or 20th February for the money to be spent before the 31st March, would it not have been assumed that that would bind the hands of the members with regard to the other difficult portion of the total expenditure on the saloon when the budget discussion came up? That is the reason why I raised these three points before the House.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: The provincial satraps want us to provide them with all the luxuries that can be procured in this country, and we, the members of this Council are being asked that money should be provided to import from distant England or France or America the materials that are necessary for the comfort and well-being of a provincial satrap. We are poor people and we do not have a proper meal a day. If the provincial satraps, who come here with the best of intentions to help the Indians, go round the country and see how people are dying for scarcity of water not to speak of malaria and kala-azar, if they go round the villages and see that even the ladies of very respectable families are going with *kalsis* on their heads to get water from a distance of 5 miles, then they will realise how poor we are. But they travel in glittering saloons and go to the towns only, where the rich folk amongst us provide them with all the necessary amenities to which they are accustomed and it is inconvenient for them to go to the villages where we poor people live. Sir, the other day, His Excellency said at Bogra that he has come here to help the Indians. Therefore, can we not ask the Governor that the money that is being demanded for his saloon may be spent on rural water-supply? In this year's budget a paltry sum of Rs. 50,000 only, an amount which is less than even the pay of a Minister, has been provided for rural water-supply in a country with a population of 45½ millions, a country which, according to our well-wishers the Bureacrats, is rich, but the people of which do not get good drinking water or a proper meal a day. If we agree to the expenditure of this sum of Rs. 10,000, I think we will be morally bound to supply the balance of Rs. 1,40,000 that would be required for the saloons in the near future. I would very much like the Hon'ble Member in charge to enlighten us whether the Governor of Assam, His Excellency the Hon'ble Sir John Kerr, has got a saloon for himself, whether the Governor of the Central Provinces has got a saloon for himself, and whether the Governor of Bihar and Orissa has got a saloon for himself. Sir, we are moving in democratic times and with the principles of true democracy, the provincial satraps that have been transported here should imbibe the principles of democracy and live, mix and go with the people. The pay of the Governor of Assam is the same as the pay of the Hon'ble Members of the Executive Council or perhaps a little

higher, I am not quite sure, I speak subject to correction, and if the Hon'ble Member can travel in a first class compartment, if that is good enough for the Hon'ble Member, why should it not be so for our Governor? If His Excellency, after the opinions that we express in this Council, would come forward and say "All right, I bow to the wishes of the elected representatives of the country and shall travel in a first class compartment", if that be his decision, we would all the more like our Governor and think that he has come here really to help us. Sir, the gentlemen who have become Governors of Provinces, not Presidencies, are all members of the Indian Civil Service, and if they could travel first class as Members of the Executive Council why should they ask that a special carriage be provided for them no sooner they became Governors of small provinces? On that analogy I would humbly request His Excellency, so far as his comforts are concerned, to travel in a first class bogie and not ask the tax-payers of this Province to provide him with a saloon worth Rs. 1,50,000. I think some repairs or a little bit of alteration here and there may be made in the saloon that we have got at present to make up the deficiencies. But will our rulers see eye to eye with us in this matter? They say they have come here to look to our comforts; I say—"No, they have come here to look to their own comforts; let the black Indians go to the dogs." With all the sincerity that I possess I ask that the opinion of this Council, as expressed, be conveyed to His Excellency that the elected representatives of the country want him to be a man of their own; that he should not be encircled by and within a limited few; as he has come to Bengal, he should know the people of Bengal rich and poor alike. The few that surround the Governor, I should say in most cases, are flatterers and they have not got the courage to say "My Lord, this is the opinion of the country——

Mr. PRESIDENT: What has that got to do with the demand of Rs. 10,000 for the construction of two new broad gauge saloons for His Excellency the Governor? It is quite out of order.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I mean to say that if the gentlemen who go up to His Excellency off and on and surround him would submit to him that the opinion—

Mr. PRESIDENT: I repeat that these observations have nothing to do with the question of the provision of Rs. 10,000 for the construction of the Governor's saloons.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I bow to your ruling. We are here to see that the interests of the tax-payers, the interests of the poor are properly safe-guarded. My friend, Babu Akhil Chandra Datta, has stated that the present Prime Minister of England, who I think is the greatest personality in the world, travels third. I may add, the story runs that when Mr. Gladstone was the Prime Minister, he used

to travel third from one end of the country to the other, and when asked the reason, he used to remark that it was because there was no fourth class. If men like Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and Mr. Gladstone could travel third why should our Governor travel in a saloon? I do not mean any disrespect to our Governor and we do not want him to travel third class. We want to provide him with sufficient comfort. We have been told by the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson that a kitchen is necessary, but I know every railway has got dining cars, and for the comfort and convenience of our Governor a dining car may be attached next to the bogey or 1st class carriage in which he travels. If His Excellency would agree to this sort of travelling, he would bring himself nearer and nearer to his people and a good portion of the tax-payers' money would be saved; and when he goes back to his native land after five years of his rule the people of this country will say "here we had a Governor who bowed to the wishes of the elected representatives of the country." So far as my party is concerned, we do not care whether we lose this motion or win it, but I emphatically protest against this sort of expenditure and in asking us to be party to such an expenditure. This expenditure relates to a Reserved subject and His Excellency by his power of certification can restore the grants: let us see what he elects to do.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: I fully associate myself with all that has been said by my friend Babu Akhil Chandra Datta in connection with this motion. If I oppose this demand for Rs. 10,000, it must not be understood as implying anything like distespect to His Excellency. If we oppose it, we oppose it because there is something snobbish about this demand. It has been pointed out, and very forcibly too, that in England only the other day Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, the Prime Minister, travelled, not for a short distance, but from London to Scotland, third class; it is also very well known to many of us that the late Mr. Gladstone used, as a rule, to travel third. If these two gentlemen, Mr. Gladstone in his time and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald in our time, if these two gentlemen, each in his own time the first citizens of the British Empire, could travel third, it certainly can not be said that it would be derogatory for His Excellency to travel first. And a greater man than Mr. Gladstone or the present Prime Minister, probably the greatest Mahatma Gandhi, who has a wider circle of admirers than any living human being, if he can travel third without losing the respect of his fellow beings, I see no reason why the same course should not be followed by His Excellency. I do not say that he should travel third, but a first class carriage might be reserved for him, if he must travel first and nothing less than first. The Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson has stated that the saloon must have special kitchen accommodation attached to it; this is ridiculous, it is nonsense to suggest that special kitchen accommodation need at all be provided. We all know that on all the railway lines we have refreshment rooms where a special table can be set apart for His Excellency if he thinks

he cannot associate with others; there are refreshment rooms where he can get down and have fresh refreshments on all the railway lines in India. In view of these circumstances, I cannot understand how in these days of democracy the Hon'ble Member could have brought forward this additional item for our sanction. I hope our opposition will not be mistaken as a slur on His Excellency; we oppose it as a matter of principle.

Maulvi RAJB UDDIN TARAFDAR rose to address the Council.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Maulvi Sahib, you must be careful when speaking in Bengali to see that you do not use any word of disrespect to His Excellency the Governor. Please take my warning.

Maulvi RAJB UDDIN TARAFDAR addressed the Council in Bengali.

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: In supporting the motion moved by Babu Umes Chandra Chatterjee and in associating myself with what has been said by previous speakers, I appeal to His Excellency, that his Excellency a nobleman and a member of the British aristocracy as he is, should provide his own saloon with his own money instead of coming to us, poor people for a grant. I further add that the people of this country will be grateful to him if, when he leaves this land on the expiry of his term, he makes a gift of his own saloon for such public or charitable purposes as might command themselves to him.

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ addressed the Council in Bengali.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: It is with a deep sense of regret, Sir, that I rise to support the motion for refusal of the demand for His Excellency's saloon. The whole matter is so delicate that any opposition may be misconstrued as ungracious but there is a principle involved in it. We have every respect personally for His Excellency and no one should have been more glad than ourselves in adding to His Excellency's comforts. But as the head of a Government which has made itself so unpopular by its utter disregard to the wishes of the people, His Excellency must bear with us when we propose to refuse the grant as a mark of protest on behalf of the impoverished people whom we have the honour to represent in this House. The head of the Government which provides for the magnificent grant of half a lakh for the prevention of malaria where 10 lakhs of people are carried away every year by malaria, cannot be afforded the luxury of a saloon costing Rs. 1,50,000.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Cannot we do without all that?

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: Sir, the Government has further very kindly proposed to spend 1 lakh out of Rs. 3,10,000, the sanctioned estimate for the construction of nurses' quarters in the Presidency General Hospital.

Mr. PRESIDENT: That has all been debated by the Council and the grant has already been voted by the Council. I do not think you should refer to these matters now.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: In this supplementary budget we have been asked to vote for a sum of Rs. 10,000 for His Excellency's saloon. When the utter disregard of proportion with which money is spent by the Government is considered, can you, Sir, very much blame those who like to call this Government satanic?

But I am afraid His Excellency is the last of the type of Governors to use such princely vehicles. The change has already ushered in. The Premier of the British Empire is travelling third.

Mr. PRESIDENT: This is about the fourth time that we have heard about Mr. Ramsay MacDonald travelling third class and I cannot allow that sort of repetition from every speaker.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: I am not going to repeat that. I am referring to Mahatma Gandhi.

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is also a repetition for the fourth time. I cannot allow it to be referred again.

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR: So will it not be a sheer waste of money to spend such a big sum for a saloon lasting for 30 - 40 years? It will be a bad investment causing trouble for future Governors—who may be required to travel in Khadder which certainly does not fit in with such a luxury.

I wish it were possible for His Excellency to use the old saloons or hire new ones for the remainder of his stay in this country, and it would have spared us from this unpleasant duty of refusing the grant.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I must say that I am a little disappointed at the turn the debate has taken. I placed certain alternatives before the House in the hope that I might be given some idea of the views of the House on those alternatives, but I have not got it. To deal first of all with Dr. Roy's question which I have already answered, I have explained that the Rs. 10,000 was put into a supplementary estimate to be placed before the Council at one of the earlier meetings in order that the whole question might be brought before the Council in a more satisfactory way than could be done in the budget. Unfortunately, the meetings of that particular session were so delayed that we could not put it before the Council in the ordinary course. I have now brought it forward with the special purpose of enabling the Council to put their views regarding it in greater detail than is possible during the budget discussion. As regards the question whether if the Council pass this demand they will be committed to the larger sum contained in the budget, the answer is of course in the affirmative. It

would of course be absolutely impossible for the Council, as for an ordinary individual, to sanction a scheme and provide part of the money one day, and then the next day to alter their minds and refuse to provide the rest. There is no question of any concealment. It was definitely put before this House that this Rs. 10,000 was part of the bigger expenditure which was not to be incurred until next year.

Then, Sir, with regard to the other speeches, Babu Manmatha Nath Roy has put forward a suggestion that the Governor should present the Province with a saloon and Maulvi Muhammad Nurul Huq Chaudhury, if I understood him aright, has put forward the very handsome suggestion that I should also be provided with a saloon. I do not mean to discuss either of those proposals. Practically the whole of the discussion on this motion has been to the effect that in modern days there should be no saloon for a Governor. Well, Sir, that is an attitude on which I think we can hardly have a debate in this House. It might be quite suitable for the Calcutta Parliament, but surely the House does not seriously bring forward a proposal that the Governor of a Province in India should at once become a private individual in all his methods of life. That may be a perfectly sound idea in an ideal republic, but we have not got to that stage yet, and before we can deal with that as a practical proposition, we must get to that stage. I understand that even the head of the Moscow Soviet has saloons and travels with considerable state. The President of the French Republic travels in state. It is not a question of democracy. I understand that even Mahatma Gandhi sometimes travels in special trains. We have had comparisons regarding the manner in which Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and Mr. Gladstone travelled in England. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald may travel third class for all I know: he may habitually travel third class, but in the first place, Sir, the Government in England has recently allowed and brought in the House of Commons a proposal that every Member of the House of Commons should have a 1st class season ticket. Secondly, there are certain members in this House here who travel first class and draw double first class travelling allowance. Why drag in individuals like Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and hold him up as an example which even we ourselves do not follow?

Then, Sir, it has been suggested that a first class reserved compartment would be quite sufficient for the Governor to travel. But even the Agents of the Railways and the Superintendents of the Railway Police have their own saloons. I put it to the House that if you bring a public personage out from home at a fairly mature age and put him in as the Governor of an important province like Bengal, you must treat him with sufficient respect and you must provide him with comfort and dignity.

As regards Akhil Babu's speech, I would say that when you get an elected President of Bengal then you could do whatever you like, but as long as you still have a Governor of Bengal brought out from home—I

would remind the House at the wish of the people of Bengal, because they wanted a statesman from home instead of a sun-dried bureaucrat—you must enable him to travel with decent comfort and dignity. I therefore decline entirely to believe that either the country or the House seriously wish to deprive the Governor of his saloon and make him travel like an ordinary individual. That being so, Sir, I am entirely left in the dark as to what the wishes of the House are. The only speaker who has commented at all on the alternatives is Dr. Roy who, to my mind, if I may say so, very sensibly remarked that it is a matter which we must leave to the experts.

The motion of Babu Umes Chandra Chatterjee was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chuadhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Dutta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boreda Prosad.
Cafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Canguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Heque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basan.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Tarakanath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satoewripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Taraifdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Atey, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Cheinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. G. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.

Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morens, Dr. H. W. B.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.

The Ayes being 58 and the Noes 54, the motion was carried.

Business before the Council.

Mr. PRESIDENT: To-day and Monday having been allotted by His Excellency for supplementary grants, no other business except supplementary grants will be taken up on Monday. If, therefore, the Council completes the supplementary grants to-day, there will be no sitting of the Council on Monday and the main budget will be taken up on Tuesday at 3 o'clock.

Supplementary Demands for Grants.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: I move that a sum of Rs. 30,000 be granted for expenditure this year for the construction of a four-storeyed building for the Ballygunge police-station.

I have on various occasions in this House referred to this scheme. On the last occasion I came before the Council with a proposal for stables for the mounted police, which at that time it was proposed should be built in Ripon Street. I told the Council then that there was an alternative and a cheaper scheme which we were investigating and which we proposed to adopt if it were found feasible and if the Council granted the money. That scheme, Sir, was the conversion of the old Fenwick Bazar thana into stables for the mounted police at a cost of Rs. 2,30,000, out of which we were to receive Rs. 1,80,000 for the present stable premises. It was then necessary to provide accommodation for the Motor Vehicles Department, which was at that time housed at Fenwick Bazar. I told the House that we proposed to place the Motor Vehicles Department on land in the possession of Government at Ballygunge and that until I could bring before the House a proposal for a combined Public Vehicles Department building, which would cost a large sum of money, we should have to put up temporary accommodation for the Motor Vehicles Office on this ground at Ballygunge. Then, Sir, the House voted the money both for the conversion of Fenwick Bazar into a stable for the mounted police and for the temporary quarters at Ballygunge for the Motor Vehicles Department. Since then it has been suggested

that Rs. 30,000 is the big sum to be spent on temporary quarters for the Motor Vehicles Department, which would have to be scraped as soon as the main building was built, and it has been represented that it would be a far more economical project to build the temporary offices of the Motor Vehicles Department in such a way that they can be utilised as part of the thana at Ballygunge later on. At the present moment the Ballygunge thana is located in a private house on the Store Road, for which we have to pay a rent of Rs. 560 a month. It is a most unsuitable house for a thana having no accommodation whatever for the constables and I would remind the House that as the Rent Act has ceased to apply to any of our police buildings the rents are likely to be increased and in fact we have been given notice in two or three cases already. There is also an outpost attached to the Ballygunge thana at Gariahat. That outpost is to be acquired by the Improvement Trust, and we shall, therefore, have to build another outpost in place of this. Well, Sir, our scheme for housing the Calcutta Police to which I referred the other day provides for one thana at Ballygunge doing away with the outpost. The cost of the thana is roughly just under 1 lakh. We should get a big sum—something like Rs. 18,000—for the Gariahata outpost and we shall save, if we build the thana, at the rate of Rs. 560 a month which we are now paying for this very unsuitable building and we shall have a very suitable thana. Therefore, Sir, we have for the moment made arrangements with the Government of India for the temporary accommodation of our Motor Vehicles Department—the office part of it—in the Army Clothing Depôt until this question is settled.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: May I ask where this money will be spent.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: The estimate was that Rs. 1,30,000 will be spent this year to the Fenwick Bazar thana and Rs. 30,000 on this building. The remainder of the Rs. 2,30,000 will not be spent this year. My proposal is that we shall continue this building and build it up to four stories at an additional cost of about Rs. 70,000. When this is completed we shall house our Motor Vehicle Department in it temporarily until the Public Vehicle Building is sanctioned by the Council. This four-storeyed building will be available for the Ballygunge thana and the Gariahata outpost will be abolished. This is the whole meaning of this supplementary grant. The first storey of this building was granted last August by this Council. By bringing forward this motion to-day I want to take the sanction of the Council to transfer that expenditure to the new scheme of the Ballygunge thana.

Babu MANMOHON NEOGI: I move that the demand for Rs. 30,000 for the construction of a four-storeyed building for the Ballygunge police-station be refused.

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: I support this motion, Sir, and in doing so I beg to point out two things: In the first place I would draw the attention of the House to the curious line—or rather chain—of arguments that has been pursued in the memorandum which has been circulated to us in connection with this demand. It is alleged that the Mounted Police stables could not be accommodated in Wellesley Place because the Corporation would not have it there. Because the stables have got to be removed to, and built at, Fenwick Bazar, therefore, the Motor Vehicles Department should be removed to Ballygunge and accommodated in temporary quarters and that a one-storeyed building should be constructed for the purpose. And now because it transpires that it will be more economical to build a four-storeyed building instead of a one-storeyed one, therefore, a four-storeyed building should be constructed—not for the Fenwick Bazar Mounted Police stables—not for the Motor Vehicles Department, but for the Ballygunge thana. The Hon'ble Member wanted to show that because the Council sanctioned one thing in last August, therefore, this demand should also be sactioned as something to which the Council was already committed. This is really going too far. I come next to the other point and to my mind a more substanstial point. When Sir Hugh Stephenson demanded the grant for stables last August, he distinctly gave it out that the Mounted Police Stables formed part of a general Police Housing Scheme which be financed and executed, not from the Provincial revenue but, from loans and that the expenditure that would be required for converting the Fenwick Bazar buildings to Mounted Police stables would be included in the big loan project, but that because it was urgent he came up to the Council for the sanction of such a demand as was made in last August. That point was made clear by a question put at that time by Mr. Surendra Nath Mallik who asked whether the building was "going to be included in the scheme towards the construction of which a loan was going to be floated." Sir Hugh Stephenson then replied that the House was "one which would form part of the Police Housing Scheme" but as that particular building was urgently required they wanted "to go on at once" with its construction. Mr. Mallik then inquired whether that particular "building would be included in the loan for police buildings." To this Sir Hugh Stephenson answered that he thought it would be so included. Therefore, Sir, so far as the Public Vehicles Department was concerned it should form part of the big loan scheme. But the Government now comes forward with another item of police housing and demands money for it from public revenues. Thus, one by one, schemes of police buildings were being brought forward although the loan project from which these were to have been financed was as distant as ever. It is a thing, therefore, I submit, which the Council should not commit itself to and a proposal which the House should not vote for.

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: Sir, may I ask the Hon'ble Member two questions? Sir, in the first place the demand is not really for

Rs. 30,000 but it is for the sanction of additional one lakh of rupees. I suppose that is the sanction that is now being asked for. The second point is that the Ballygunge thana is costing Government Rs. 560 a month as rent which means Rs. 7,000 a year. But, Sir, give it to any contractor and he will build the House for a lakh or a little more. Any contractor will build and you can pay him Rs. 500 a month extending over a period of years.

The Hon'ble Sir HUGH STEPHENSON: The reasons given against my motion—if I may say so are very few. Rai Harendranath Chaudhuri said something about the curious chain of reasoning that because A is to be transferred, therefore, it follows that B is also to be transferred, and as B is to be transferred, therefore, it fallows that C must be built and that D would follow. I am sure he is not accusing me in any way of deciving the House. I have put all my cards on the table from the very beginning. I have told the House that for the last three years the Municipality have been threatening us to remove the stable from Wellesley Place on the ground that it is a public nuisance. I told the House that the Secretary of State was threatened with a suit by the people who live above the stable and I also told the House that having put off the Corporation for three years we find we could not do so any longer especially with a Chairman like Mr. S. N. Mallik. Therefore, we had to go elsewhere and at that time I also explained to the House that the site where the stable should be removed to had been decided by us to be the Fenwick Bazar thana and in that connection I also told the House that it would be necessary to build a new Public Vehicle Department building at Ballygunge. The only thing I did not mention was the Ballygunge thana which was not, at that time, in my mind at all. It was only when we started to build temporary quarters on the site of Ballygunge that it was represented to me that it was a waste of money to build temporary quarters and therefore (the thana scheme having been put up a year previously as part of the Police Housing Scheme) it was thought economical on the whole to start this building and that is why we are building this temporary office in such a form that it can form part of the thana building. The only other objection that has been brought before the House was that put forward by Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy. In this connection I may tell the House that I do not care twopence how we pay for the house so long as the Council accept the principle. Dr. Roy has told us that any contractor will take it up at a cost of a little over a lakh. I do not know if he is ready to produce such a contractor. (DR. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: I will produce the contractor, if necessary.) Then in that case I would like to put him in touch with the Commissioner of Police. The fact is I was told originally that our only chance of getting money was by floating a loan, but I was told later on by our financial experts that

it was not economical to take a loan when you have got money in your balance because by so doing we shall have to divert a certain amount of recurring expenditure. At present we have got plenty of money in our balances and what we want is money for recurring expenditure. If we raise a loan now it will prevent us from incurring this recurring expenditure because we will have to pay interest on the loan, but if we take the money from our balance we do not have to pay any interest. If the House, however, is willing to raise a loan for this purpose I would personally be quite pleased with a loan. Sir, these are the only reasons that have been brought forward and I have answered them. I would ask the House to accept the principle of building the Ballygunge thana. Whether it is erected by raising a loan or from our balances or by a contractor who would finance it is another question. My only object in bringing forward this supplementary grant now is to put this before the House. As last August I did not mention the Ballygunge thana at all I wanted to put this before the House now so that the Council may see what we want.

The motion of Babu Monmohan Neogi was then put and a division taken with the following result:--

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chuadhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boroda Prasad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. H.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Aley, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.

Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Choimuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Dey, Mr. G. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. G. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hassain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Muskarruf.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Ross, Mr. G. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhushan.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.

The Ayes being 61 and the Noes 50, the motion was carried.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: I move that a sum of Rs. 73,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "37. Miscellaneous Departments (Reserved)" for the participation of this Province in the British Empire Exhibition.

The members of this House, Sir, will remember that last August we were told what was being done and what was intended to be done in connection with the participation of Bengal in the British Empire Exhibition. The figure I put forward now is the sum required to carry out the intentions then expressed by the Government and approved by the Council. This expenditure is mainly in connection with cottage industries and the establishment necessary for looking after the Bengal Court in the Exhibition.

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: I move that the demand for Rs. 73,000 for expenditure under the head "37. Miscellaneous Departments (Reserved)" for the participation of this Province in the British Empire Exhibition be refused.

The motion being put a division was taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zamneer.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohan.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Bereda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.

Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Ray, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satoewripati.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhushan.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Taraftdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Atey, Mr. S. Mahbeeb.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Choinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Day, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dess, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. G. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharrul.
Huq. Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Maslh, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Pravash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaje.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilall Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.

The Ayes being 62 and the Noes 51, the motion was carried.

The following motion which stood in the name of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy was not taken up as being covered by the above decision:—

"That the demand of Rs. 73,000 for expenditure under the head '37. Miscellaneous Departments (Reserved)' for the participation of this Province in the British Empire Exhibition, be reduced by Re. 1."

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: I move that a sum of Rs. 60,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "47.—Miscellaneous" to meet the probable excess expenditure over the major head.

This amount is made up of our contribution to the Shillong Pasteur Institute and the excess expenditure for the appointment of Special Commissions to hear election petitions.

The following motion standing in the names of Babu Romes Chandra Bagchi and Maulvi Wahed Hossain was called but not moved:—

"That the demand for Rs. 60,000 for expenditure under the head '47.—Miscellaneous' to meet the probable excess expenditure over the major head be refused."

The motion of the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald was then put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: I move that a sum of Rs. 1,62,000 be granted to meet the anticipated excess expenditure in England.

This is purely a matter of estimating the amount we have this year to pay for expenditure in England, including our share of the High Commissioner's establishment in England. Our original estimate was rather low and it is to make sure that we do not have an excess expenditure over the grant of the year that we ask for this supplementary demand.

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: I move that the demand of Rs. 1,62,000 to meet the anticipated excess expenditure in England be refused.

I do so with one remark that we should be extremely careful about our expenditure outside India because the money is drawn not only out of Indian Exchequer but also spent out of India for a purpose from which the sons of the soil receive very little benefit. So I think this anticipated excess expenditure should be refused.

Maulvi MAHI UDDIN KHAN: I beg to support the motion.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: With regard to the observation that has been made I may say that we are very careful ourselves to spend in India as much money as possible as the mover said. We have spent here a sum of Rs. 40,000 received from the grant under this head for increased expenditure under Jails and Convict Settlements. That amount has not been spent in England but we have spent it here. We have cut the figure down. We are careful to see that as much money is spent here as possible.

The motion being put a division was taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zameer.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakraverty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.

Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chuadhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boreda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Joardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Nagendra Narayan.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Roy Chaudhuri, Rai Bahadur Satyendra Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Naliniranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Taraidar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Alay, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Choinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Doss, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. G. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huo, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr Syed M.
McAlpin Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Merene, Dr. H. W. B.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nandy, Maharaj Kumar Sris Chandra.
Nazimuddin, Khaje.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Rose, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhushan.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.

The Ayes being 57 and the Noes 53, the motion was carried.

The following motion standing in the name of Rai Harendranath Chaudhuri was not taken up as being covered by the above decision:—

"That the demand for Rs. 1,62,000 to meet the anticipated excess expenditure in England be reduced by Rs. 40,000."

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I move that a sum of Rs. 8,39,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "15.—Other Revenue Expenditure Financed from Ordinary Revenue."

A printed memorandum has been circulated. This is really a case of readjustment of the total expenditure.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the supplementary demand of Rs. 8,39,000 under the head '15. Other Revenue Expenditure Financed from Ordinary Revenue, be refused."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 8,39,000 for expenditure under the head '15. Other Revenue Expenditure Financed from Ordinary Revenue' be reduced by Re. 1."

The motion of the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan was then put and agreed to.

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT OF IRRIGATION (the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan): I move that a sum of Rs. 29,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "55.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage works."

In this case also a printed memorandum has been circulated and it explains the necessity for this grant.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the supplementary demand of Rs. 29,000 under the head '55. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment, and Drainage Works' be refused."

The motion of the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur was than put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: I move that a sum of Rs. 22,500 be granted for expenditure under the head "34.—Agriculture" for payment to Mr. Griffiths for his experiments for eradication of water-hyacinth.

The matter is so important and well known that I need hardly make any speech on it.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA and Babu NALINIRANJAN SARKAR: "That the supplementary demand of Rs. 22,500 under the head '34.—Agriculture' for payment to Mr. Griffiths for his spray for eradication of water-hyacinth, be refused."

The motion of the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. Ghuznavi was then put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: I wish to make a statement, Sir, on this subject. The Indian Jute Mills Association, in this very important matter, have already guaranteed the

sum of Rs. 22,500 against the Council not passing the demand that I have made. I therefore wish to take this opportunity of offering our thanks to the Association.

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: I move that a sum of Rs. 22,500 be granted for expenditure under the head "41.—Civil Works" in connection with the Mymensingh partition works.

This is merely the amount of money that will be required by the High Court in consequence of the partition of Mymensingh being turned down. I do not think I need make any speech on it.

The following motion standing in the name of Babu Manmohan Neogi was called but not moved:—

"That the supplementary demand of Rs. 1,65,000 under the head '41. Civil Works—Mymensingh partition Works' be refused."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: I move that the demand of Rs. 1,65,000 for expenditure under the head "41.—Civil Works" in connection with Mymensingh Partition Works be reduced by Re. 1.

In doing so I would like to point out one curious fact narrated in the memorandum circulated to us explaining the necessity for the grant. The following observations have been made there:—

When the actual closing came into operation the contractors for the work put in a claim for a much higher amount for breach of contract than was anticipated. In March, 1922, the question of expenditure was again fully considered and it was estimated that the total expenditure for closing down work would be Rs. 2,39,000 inclusive of Rs. 69,000 on account of compensation payable to the contractors but the contractors refused to accept this amount which the Public Works Department thought to be their proper dues. The contractors claimed Rs. 4,24,204-13-6 and on 1st May, 1922, instituted a suit against Government in the High Court on account of the loss sustained by them in connection with the closing down of the work. The Hon'ble High Court decided the case *ex parte* in favour of the plaintiff and awarded Rs. 2,30,850 plus costs to the plaintiff. Government applied for the case to be re-heard but the Hon'ble High Court ordered the decretal amount to be deposited in the Court before 22nd December, 1923, before agreeing to re-hear the case.

I cannot understand why the case was allowed to be decided *ex parte* although there are lots of legal officers of Government receiving high salaries. Is the nation to suffer because of the negligence of the law officers of the State?

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: The reason for the case being decided *ex parte* was that the Crown Counsel was engaged on other matters and so could not attend to this case.

Babu NALINIRANJAN SARKAR: Was he engaged in a political matter so that he could not attend to the case?

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is not the answer. He was engaged on other professional matters.

Mr. C. R. DAS: May I point out that the word "professional matter" was not there?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I think that it was intended. I do not think that anything else was intended.

Rai Harendranath Chaudhuri's motion was, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

The motion of the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Ghuznavi was then put and agreed to.

Adjournment.

The Council was then adjourned till 3 P.M. on Tuesday, the 1st April, 1924, at the Town Hall, Calcutta.

Proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council [illegible] under the provisions of the Government of India Act.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber in the Town Hall, Calcutta, on Tuesday, the 1st April, 1924, at 3 P.M.

Present:

The Hon'ble the President in the Chair, the four Hon'ble Members of the Executive Council, the two Hon'ble Ministers, and 123 nominated and elected members.

Oath or Affirmation.

The following members made an oath or affirmation of their allegiance to the Crown:—

Babu BRAJENDRA KISHORE ROY CHAUDHURY.

Mr. B. J. CORCORAN.

Starred Questions

(to which oral answers were given).

Amounts spent on salaries of holders of posts in provincial and subordinate services.

***CIII. Maulvi SAYEDAL HOQUE:** Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Finance be pleased to lay on the table a comparative statement showing what amounts were spent in the financial years 1913-1914 and 1922-1923 as salaries of the holders of the provincial and subordinate services (Executive and Judicial) with reasons for any increase or decrease in the total amount of the salaries for the two years referred to above?

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of FINANCE (the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald): The attached statement shows the amounts spent on the salaries of the holders of posts in the provincial and subordinate services (Executive and Judicial) in the financial years 1913-1914 and 1922-1923. The increases are due both to changes in the strength of the respective cadres and to the revision of salaries.

Statement referred to in the reply to starred question No. CIII.

Deputy Collectors and Sub-Deputy Collectors.		Subordinate Judges.		Munsifs.	
1913-14.	1922-23.	1913-14.	1922-23.	1913-14.	1922-23.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
14,22,981	26,11,249	3,76,597	5,92,786	9,03,173	15,78,400

Supply of Civil Court Forms in Jessore.

***CIV. Babu JOGENDRA NATH MITRA:** (*a*) Is the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Judicial Department aware that the inadequate supply of Civil Court Forms for the use of parties has caused the litigant public of Jessore inconvenience?

(*b*) Is it a fact that the parties have sometimes to print them or to purchase them from private persons?

MEMBER in charge of JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-Rahim): (*a*) No such inconvenience was brought to the notice of the District Judge. It seems, however, that though fewer suits had been instituted and a greater supply of forms had been provided in 1923 than in 1922 a much increased demand for certain forms led to a temporary difficulty. The supply was adequate to meet the actual needs: it failed because of unnecessary demands.

(*b*) It appears that forms printed in private presses have been purchased and used. To this there is no longer any objection.

Lease of lands acquired at Maijdi.

***CV. Dr. MOHINI MOHON DAS:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Department of Revenue (Land Revenue) be pleased to state—

(*i*) whether the lands acquired by the Government at Maijdi for the construction of the new headquarters of the district of Noakhali were temporarily leased out last year to one Mr. L. Marcon, a Frenchman, at a nominal rent;

(*ii*) whether it is a fact that the claims of the poor cultivators of the locality whose lands were so acquired were not considered; and

(*iii*) whether it is a fact that Mr. Marcon made a large profit by sub-letting these lands to the self-same poor cultivators?

(*b*) Is it a fact that this year too the Government are going to lease out the lands to the said Mr. Marcon?

(*c*) Is it a fact that the previous owners of the lands, the neighbouring cultivators and others are willing to take lease of the same, at a higher rental than that offered by Mr. Marcon?

(*d*) Was any tender called before letting out these lands last year or this year?

(*e*) If not, will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state the reasons for not calling for tenders?

(*f*) Is it a fact that last year the cultivators whose lands have been acquired and other cultivators of the locality were willing to take settlement of these lands temporarily at a much higher rental?

(*g*) If so, why was preference given to Mr. Marcon?

(*h*) Will the Hon'ble the Member be pleased to state the names of the officers who let out these lands last year?

(*i*) Are the Government considering the desirability of directing the officers concerned to let out these lands to the previous owners or to the highest bidder?

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of REVENUE [LAND REVENUE] (the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan): (*a*) (*i*) The order of Government was to lease out a portion of the land acquired at Maijdi, district Noakhali, on a suitable rent to Mr. L. M. Marcon for the purpose of cultivation during the year 1923 only, on the understanding that all or any part of the land, when required, will be released at once without compensation.

(*ii*) and (*iii*) Government have no information on the subject.

(*b*) There is no such proposal before Government at present, but it is probable that a proposal will be submitted.

(*c*) Government have no information on the subject.

(*d*) and (*e*) No tenders were called for. The land was leased out to Mr. Marcon as he was considered to be the most reliable tenant who was not likely to cause any trouble.

(*f*) Government have no information in this respect.

(*g*) Preference was given to Mr. Marcon for reasons explained in reply to questions (*d*) and (*e*).

(*h*) The land was leased out on the recommendation of the Collector of Noakhali, Commissioner of the Chittagong Division, Executive Engineer, Chittagong Division and Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle.

(*i*) There is no proposal before Government to consider at present.

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: Are the Government ready to make inquiries regarding the matters mentioned in clauses (*ii*) and (*iii*) of the question?

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: Government are not prepared to make further inquiries.

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: If not, why not?

Mr. PRESIDENT (the Hon'ble Mr. H. E. A. Cotton): That is not a proper request for information.

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: Is the gentleman, Mr. Marcon, the only reliable person from whom rent can be realised without any trouble in the district of Noakhali?

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I have already said in my reply that the lease is for one year only, and as it is about to expire, it is not worth while to do anything at present.

Dacca Horn Button Industry.

***CVI. Babu MANMOHON NEOGI:** (*a*) Is the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Agriculture and Industries aware that the button industries at Dacca have now practically collapsed for want of patronage from Government?

(*b*) Is it a fact that about 2,000 operators have given up their work and many capitalists have closed their business?

(*c*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to say whether the Director of Industries has taken any steps to protect this small but once a thriving local industry?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE and INDUSTRIES (the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Ghuznavi): (*a*) Government understand that the industry has declined owing to the competition of Italian buttons.

(*b*) Government have no information.

(*c*) The answer is in the affirmative. The Director of Industries secured the services of the button expert of the Bombay Government to advise the Narayanganj Button Manufacturing Company on improved methods of working. Sample buttons were purchased and forwarded to the Military Department, Government of India, but unfortunately there was no demand for them. The Director of Industries was, however, informed that the name of the Company was placed on the list of approved contractors and that tenders, when required, would be called for from them. The Director of Industries investigated the possibility of selling Dacca buttons in foreign countries, but without success. A list of importing firms in Calcutta, Bombay, Karachi and Rangoon was sent to the firm in Narayanganj with a view to their securing marketing facilities through them. An inquiry was published in the *Indian Trade Journal* free and the replies received were forwarded to the firm. With a view to investigating the possibility of competing with the

cheap, Italian nut buttons, which have now practically captured the market, information regarding the sources of supply of nuts obtainable in quantity in India and suitable for button making was obtained through the Director, Botanical Survey of India, and communicated to the principal firms. Preliminary investigations for the preservation of the nuts, receipts for dyeing of animal and vegetable buttons, the improved methods of polishing and the utilisation of the waste horns were taken up on a laboratory scale and the results achieved so far were communicated to the button manufacturers. The button-making machine of one S. Chanda of Dacca which was out of order was thoroughly overhauled and the cost was borne by the Industries Department. These are instances of the steps taken by the Director of Industries to assist and protect the industry referred to.

Prisoners detained under Bengal Regulation III of 1818.

*CVII. **Maulvi AFTAB HOSSAIN JOARDAR:** Will the Hon'ble the Member in charge of the Political Department be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the list of prisoners detained under Bengal Regulation III of 1818, since 1906, stating the charges, if any, laid against each?

MEMBER in charge of POLITICAL DEPARTMENT (the Hon'ble Sir Hugh Stephenson): Government is not prepared to give the statement asked for.

Unstarred Questions

(answers to which were laid on the table).

Mohsin Endowment.

148. **Maulvi WAHED HOSSAIN:** (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Education, be pleased to state—

(*i*) who is the present Trustee of the Mohsin Endowment Fund;

(*ii*) whether the Trustee receives any remuneration;

(*iii*) the gross annual income of the said Endowment; and

(*iv*) the amount spent on—

(*a*) establishment,

(*b*) litigation,

(*c*) collection charges, and

(*d*) Muhammadan education?

(*b*) If the answer to (*ii*) is in the affirmative, will the Honb'le the Minister be pleased to state what is his monthly salary?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION (the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul Huq: (*a*) (*i*) Government now stand in the place of the two Mutwallis appointed under the Trust deed. A Committee of Trustees appointed by Government administers that portion of the proceeds of the Syedpore Trust Estate which has been appropriated to religious uses. A Mutwalli is appointed by this Committee, who receives Rs. 6,666-10-8 annually as salary.

(*ii*) No portion of the income is appropriated by Government.

(*iii*) The gross annual income of the endowment during the 3 years was—

(*1*) Rs. 98,964 in 1920-21;

(*2*) Rs. 1,05,259 in 1921-22; and

(*3*) Rs. 1,04,028 in 1922-23.

		Rs.	A.	P.
(*iv*) (*a*)	Unani Dispensary Establishment, 1922-23...	1,487	11	3
	Local Agents Establishment, 1922-23. ...	1,421	8	0
	Imambara Establishment, 1922-23 .	9,669	5	0
	Total	12,578	8	3

(*b*) and (*c*) Not available.

(*d*) Rs. 43,379 in 1920-21; Rs. 46,780 in 1921-22; Rs. 48,493 in 1922-23.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

Excavations and reclamations of tanks in Dacca and Faridpur.

149. Mr. TARIT BHUSAN ROY: (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*i*) how many new tanks have been excavated; and

(*ii*) how many old tanks reclaimed during each of the last five years by the District and Local Boards in the districts of Dacca and Faridpur, respectively, for providing drinking water to the people?

(*b*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state the expenditure incurred on account of such excavations and reclamations?

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT [PUBLIC HEALTH] (the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Chuznavi): (*a*) and (*b*) A statement is laid on the table.

Statement referred in the reply to unstarred question No. 149, showing the number of tanks excavated and reclaimed by the District and Local Boards in Dacca and Faridpur during the last five years.

Local authority.	Number of new tanks excavated.	Number of old tanks reclaimed.	Total expenditure.
			Rs.
1918-19—			
Dacca District Board	1	1	841
Local Boards in Dacca ..	5	4	3,276
Faridpur District Board ..	5 (*a*)	20 (*b*)	11,314
Local Boards in Faridpur ..	14	11	13,984
1919-20—			
Dacca District Board	2	1	1,738
Local Boards in Dacca ..	6	1	4,068
Faridpur District Board ..	13 (*c*)	17 (*d*)	17,844
Local Boards in Faridpur ..	9	10	12,844
1920-21—			
Dacca District Board	....	....	....
Local Boards in Dacca ..	4	5	6,685
Faridpur District Board ..	7 (*e*)	5(*f*)	7,072
Local Boards in Faridpur ..	6	17	9,965
1921-22—			
Dacca District Board ..	....	....	....
Local Boards in Dacca ..	3	4	2,046
Faridpur District Board ..	3 (*g*)	3	367
Local Boards in Faridpur ..	5	12	8,052
1922-23—			
Dacca District Board	....	....	....
Local Boards in Dacca ..	5	5	7,058
Faridpur District Board ..	9 (*h*)	16 (*i*)	6,913
Local Boards in Faridpur ..	4	20	7,955

(*a*) Only one completed.
(*b*) Only 7 ,,
(*c*) Only 8 ,,
(*d*) Sixteen ,,
(*e*) Five completed.
(*f*) Three ,,
(*g*) Two ,,
(*h*) Only one ,,
(*i*) Thirteen completed.

Circle School Pandits.

150. Rai SATYENDRA NATH ROY CHAUDHURI Bahadur: (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Education be pleased to state whether all the Circle School Pandits who have not yet completed their service have been ordered to retire without pension or any compensation allowance from 1st March, 1924?

(*b*) If so, are the Government considering the desirability of providing them with posts as Vernacular teachers in Government High Schools and in Government Training Schools in the places of those who have completed their service or age limit?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: (*a*) No. Circle School Pandits who have been ordered to retire will be granted the pension or gratuity admissible under the rules.

(*b*) Government decided that Circle Schools should be reduced to the status of primary schools and be handed over to local bodies with suitable grants as early as possible, steps being taken to avoid unnecessary hardship to the teachers who would have to be retired. Accordingly Divisional Inspectors of Schools have been instructed to provide as many as possible of those Pandits with suitable teaching and clerical appointments in the Education Department. An endeavour will also be made to find employment for those Circle Pandits, who cannot be provided in the Education Department, in other departments of Government.

Scholarships to Muhammadan Students in Commercial Institute.

151. Dr. A. SUHRAWARDY: (*a*) Will the Hon'ble the Minister in charge of the Department of Education be pleased to state the number and value of scholarships, if any, set apart for Muhammadan boys studying in any commercial institute?

(*b*) Is the Hon'ble the Minister aware that many ministerial appointments cannot be given to the Muhammadan candidates for want of training in a commercial institute?

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: (*a*) None, so far as Government are aware. Special stipends and junior scholarships, however, are tenable at the Commercial Institute, and there are at the present time Moslem students holding special stipends there. Applications from Moslems to be permitted to enjoy special stipends at the Commercial Institute and other institutions for commercial training always receive sympathetic consideration.

(*b*) Training in commercial institutions is open to Moslem boys who desire such training. Government have no information that their aspirations for clerical employment suffer from the cause stated, but they will be very glad of information under this head with a view to such action being taken as is possible to meet the situation.

Discussion on Conference at Government House.

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: May I, Sir, ask for an information?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Yes, Manmatha Babu.

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: Is it known to you, Sir, that yesterday a Conference was held at the Government House, to which the members of this Council belonging to a certain party in this House were invited to discuss matters arising out of the present budget?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have absolutely no more information on the subject than what I saw in the newspapers this morning.

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: If, as a matter of fact, such a Conference took place, may I ask for a ruling from you, Sir, as the President of this Council, whether the procedure adopted by His Excellency was constitutional?

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is not a matter for me to go into. It is certainly not the business of this House, and it is no concern of mine.

The Budget of the Government of Bengal, 1924-25.

Demands for Grants.

34.—Agriculture.

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: I listened with much attention to all that the Nawab Saheb said in moving his amendment on Friday last. I can assure him that I shall give his suggestions my very careful consideration. May I point out to him, however, that there can be only one and one guiding factor in the policy of this department, i.e., how to improve the position of the cultivator, how to make the land yield much greater return; in short how to make agriculture a paying business. The miserable condition of the cultivators may be traced to various causes among which are the laws of inheritance, unrestricted subinfeudation, ignorance of better methods, distrust of all new experiments and their mistrust towards one another. There is very little hope of improvement in this connection unless the disintegrating tendencies of these forces are checked in some way. Any change in the laws of inheritance is unthinkable. Subinfeudation may possibly be checked to a considerable extent by legislation. The greatest need is the education of the cultivators in the principle of co-operation. It is by co-operation alone that the broken holdings may be reunited and consolidated into larger holdings and agriculture carried on on improved methods. The co-operative societies hitherto organised are mostly credit societies and though helpful in their own way, they have not as yet exerted any influence on the cultivators in co-operating for the production of wealth. The difficulties in the way, however, are great. Each cultivator now gives his own labour and employs

the labour of all the members of his family including females in his individual field. At the same time there is immense waste of labour, the field being too small to utilise the labour of all of them to the fullest extent. In co-operative production care will have to be taken that the requisite labour is forthcoming without any waste. Therefore, in order to improve the lot of the agricultural population in this country it is necessary to educate the cultivator in the principles of co-operation.

Then there is another section of the people, namely, the *bhadralog* class, who need to be taught not only to regard agriculture as an honourable profession but also that it may be conducted in a profitable manner. It is for them that I am considering a further development to which I referred in my speech on the budget and regarding which the Nawab Saheb seems to have some misgivings. I am afraid that the Nawab Saheb has jumped to a conclusion which does me an injustice; but I do not for a moment think that he has done so intentionally.

During the general discussion of the budget I spoke of a new type of modern farm and I said that I will investigate the possibility of doing something on those lines, and it is only when I am satisfied along with my advisers about this—and I shall be very glad if the Nawab Saheb would also assist me—that I shall come before the Council with definite proposals. The Nawab Saheb said that the Daulatpur farm which I mentioned in my speech is really the Nadia farm with which he had some concern. May I tell him that this Daulatpur is not in Bengal at all but in Bihar, and there is an up-to-date modern farm there on a large scale where tractors and modern methods are employed with the greatest advantage and where the farm is a very paying concern? I shall be very happy to give all information on this point to the Nawab Saheb and to receive his suggestions at the proper time. I only wish that the Nawab Saheb and the members of this Council could have taken the opportunity of seeing the Macbeth tractor ploughing up the lands in the Eden Gardens opposite this Chamber while giving a demonstration only a few days ago.

After what I have stated I trust the Nawab Saheb will withdraw his motion. The observations which fell from Mr. Travers will also receive my most careful consideration. Dr. Moreno as well as Professor Mukerji agree with me in thinking that farms should be made to pay, so I have no further remarks to offer.

Nawab SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, Khan Bahadur: I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

The motion was then, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

The following motion was, by leave of the Council, withdrawn:—

Nawab SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, Khan Bahadur: "That the demand of Rs. 12,000 for agricultural schools under the head '34B.—Agriculture,' be reduced by Re. 1."

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 1,97,000 under the head '34B.—Agriculture—Sericulture,' be reduced by Rs. 7,000."

Nawab SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, Khan Bahadur: "That the demand of Rs. 1,97,000 for sericulture, under the head '34B.—Agriculture,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 8,160 under the head '34B.—Agriculture (Transferred)—Botanical and other Public Gardens—House-rent and other allowances,' be refused."

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA moved that the demand of Rs. 9,32,000 under the head "34B.—Agriculture" be refused.

Mr. PROVASH CHUNDER MITTER: The position that I have always taken up in this House is that I shall try and save the constitution. I am therefore against my friends opposite when they want to wreck the constitution. The logical conclusion from that position follows that whenever anybody tries to attack the constitution, whether it be my friends opposite or the Government, I must protest and oppose. Sir, I find it is reported in a responsible newspaper that all the Government servants in the inspecting staff of the Education Department and all the Government servants in the Medical Department have received three months' notice to quit the service of the Government. (Shame, shame.) Well, Sir, in my opinion the constitution makes ample safeguards against a contingency like this. (Hear, hear.) The constitution makes it abundantly clear that so long as the Ministers command the majority of the House, they should carry on the administration. If the Ministers do not command the majority of the House, and other Ministers are not available the constitution makes it quite clear that His Excellency should take charge of the transferred departments (hear, hear), and His Excellency should then appropriate funds sufficient for carrying on the departments. Either the Ministers have the confidence of the House or not. The refusal of the grant of 6 lakhs and odd out of 7 lakhs and odd for the inspecting staff and 5 lakhs and odd for the whole of the district medical administration showed that the Ministers did not enjoy the confidence of the House. If the Ministers did not enjoy the confidence of the House, they ought to resign, for in my view so long as they did not resign His Excellency could not appropriate funds for these Government servants. If on the other hand it was said that the Ministers are defeated by a snatch vote then the plain and straight course would be to bring forward a supplementary budget after this session is over; and if that supplementary budget was passed, then these poor servants of the Government who have done their best to serve the Government and the country will not be rendered homeless in middle life. On the other

hand, if such a supplementary budget was not passed, then the duty is clear—the duty is to take charge of the transferred departments (hear, hear). Therefore——

Mr. PRESIDENT: You are getting dangerously away from the point under discussion. I cannot allow a discussion of this kind which casts a reflection on the action of His Excellency. We are discussing a vote of rupees of 9 lakhs and odd for Agriculture and you cannot go into these constitutional questions.

Mr. PROVASH CHUNDER MITTER: I thank you, Sir, for the warning, which I did not need, because I was not criticising the action of the Governor. I was only speaking on the resolution, and I wanted to know from Government what attitude Government propose to take in this matter. My vote will be determined on a clear and unequivocal indication of that attitude; the information I want whether it be from my friends the Ministers or from some Member of the Government is this, that as regards the two demands already thrown out and if the present demand and other similar demands be thrown out would Government servants be summarily dismissed or would His Excellency take charge of the transferred departments and appropriate funds to pay them? If a clear unequivocal statement be not made then in order to force the hands of Government I will vote in favour of my friends opposite, but I will vote against them if such was not the case. On the other hand if I get the assurance I want from Government that if important portions of the budget be thrown out they will follow constitutional procedure and not dismiss Government servants, I will vote in favour of Government. I cannot see a sacred thing like the constitution handled in this way, whether by my friends opposite or by Government. I will vote against any party, whether Government or Swaraj, who will go against the constitution.

Khan Bahadur MIRZA SHUJA'AT ALI BEG: Understanding that the aim of the Swaraj party, which has shown itself to be a power in the House, is to destroy in order to rebuild in the purely Indian style where India and Indians predominate, I should have little hesitation in casting my lot in the same scale for the welfare of the motherland which is dear to us all. But from what transpired a few days ago on the motion of Khan Bahadur Musharruf Hossain regarding the pact. I not only oppose the motion for the refusal of the grant, but I feel that if Muhammadans want to preserve their entity, they should keep clear of the so-called Swarajist camp, whose professions do not coincide with their practices. Besides, they are pursuing the policy of obstruction and destruction, or they want to bring about a deadlock by overthrowing the entire budget. I was very much surprised that even the budget of Education was attempted to be thrown out. I need hardly say that Education touches the Muhammadans very keenly, as

they are backward in education. Similarly, in regard to the Agriculture budget, they want to throw it out. If the Agriculture budget is thrown out, the Muhammadans, who form the bulk of the agricultural population will suffer the most. Under these circumstances, I must oppose the motion for the refusal of the grant.

Babu DEBI PROSAD KHAITAN: I wish to say a few words in connection with this resolution which is before the House. I fully support what has been said by my friend, P. C. Mitter in this connection. The issue involved in a resolution of this character is very serious, and anybody whether it be the Government or the Swaraj party cannot play lightly with resolutions that may be passed or rejected by this House. Hard cases certainly make bad laws, but if bad laws are enacted it does not lead to the good of the people and similarly, Sir, in the present state of the infant life of our political development we cannot afford to establish conventions which might afterwards lead us to great difficulties. I wish to say one word more in connection with the agricultural development in particular. It is often said that India is an agricultural country although I myself believe that much benefit might be done to the country by developing industries also. There can be no doubt whatsoever that the agriculture of the country has to be developed as much as possible. Either, Sir, the Agricultural Department is doing good to the Province or it is not. If it is not doing good to the Province, then there is no reason why this department should be continued one day longer. If it is doing good to the Province, if it is benefiting agriculture and helping the development thereof, I do not understand, Sir, why this department is one of the most starved departments of the Government. The Hon'ble Minister in asking for a grant of 17 lakhs and 10 thousand rupees for the Department of Agriculture said that this is one of the most important departments of Government. Sir, is this the reason why the Departmentment of Agriculture is the most starved department of Government next only to the Department of Industries? Sir, this is a position which those who are in favour of working the Reforms, who believe that if the Reforms are carefully and properly worked, much benefit can accrue to the people of the Province. We want to see that the Department of Agriculture should be given much more money than 17 lakhs and 10 thousand rupees. It is a matter of common knowledge that when the Minister of Agriculture is approached, he says that enough money is not given to him whereby he can develop this department. When the Finance Department is approached we are told that there are no proper schemes placed before the Government for which money can be given. The people of the Province are thus placed between the frying pan and the fire. It is the duty of Government both to find money and also to prepare schemes whereby the agriculture of the Province can be further developed. I hope before the debate

is over the House will be given clear indications of the attitude of the Government in regard to this very beneficent department which can work much relief and much benefit to the people of this Province.

The Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. FAZL-UL HUQ: I wish to say just a few words with reference to the remarks made by my friend Mr. P. C. Mitter. Sir, I cannot at present go into a detailed reply regarding the points raised by him, but I wish to point out that all my friend has seen is an unauthorised statement in the newspapers and nothing in the nature of a Government *communiqué*. In fact, the whole question is being considered by His Excellency, and it is not possible for any of us at the present moment to disclose to the Council what action His Excellency is going to take. But I may just point out that if we accept the majority verdict of the Council on a point of economy, it cannot be said that we are going to wreck the constitution. Take, for instance, the case in which this Council recommended that the post of the Director of Public Instruction should be abolished. Supposing we accept this recommendation and ask the Director to go, can it be said that we are thereby doing something to wreck the constitution? Supposing the Council by a majority of votes decides that the inspectorate as it exists now is an unnecessarily huge agency, whose work is incommensurate with the return available, and if we wish to reduce the inspectorate, can it be said that we are going thereby to wreck the constitution? The verdict of the Council raises very important issues and all these issues are being very carefully considered by His Excellency the Governor.

As regards the supplementary demand, it may be that His Excellency on the advice of the Minister in charge, or the Member in charge, may direct a supplementary demand to be brought forward, if and when the occasion arises. It is not for me to say anything at the present moment, but I can assure my friend that His Excellency will certainly consider the situation very carefully and will not certainly do anything which may have the effect of wrecking the constitution in any way.

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: After what my Hon'ble Colleague has just stated I do not think I can add anything more. His Excellency must rely on his legal advisers as to the course to be followed on the present situation.

Turning to the remarks made by Mr. Khaitan I can assure him that I shall always be prepared to listen very carefully to any suggestions regarding agriculture, because I recognise it is one of the most important departments of Government and it affects 80 per cent. of the population of Bengal. I beseech members of this House to give this matter their very careful consideration, and to desist from throwing out this grant merely for the sake of wrecking the Council. I trust that they will look at it in a more reasonable spirit in order that we may

really do some good to millions of our countrymen who live by agriculture.

The motion was then put and a division taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Ahmad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zannoor.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjea, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakravorty, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chuadhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rob.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohon.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Boroda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haidar, Mr. S. N.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Joardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.
Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Moulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mitter, Mr. Provash Chunder.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohon.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Roy, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy, Mr. Tarit Bhushan.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinirnjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra.
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Taraifdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

NOES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Atey, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Cheinuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochrane, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Corcoran, Mr. D. J.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Gnaru Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dosa, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. G. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Faroqui, Mr. K. G. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr. P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hossain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Reshee Case.
Liddell, Mr. N. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Moberly, Mr. A. M.
Morgan, Mr. C.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.

Oatts, Mr. E. F.
Pahlowan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Ross, Mr. G. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Roy, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Ray Chaudhuri, Babu Brojendra Kisher.
Salam, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Abdus.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Buksh.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Suhrawardy, Major Hassan.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Wilson, Mr. R. B.

The Ayes being 63, and the Noes 66, the motion was lost.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 9,32,000 under 'Detailed Account No. 34B.—Agriculture,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Nawab SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, Khan Bahadur: "That the demand of Rs. 10,440 under the head "34C. Co-operative Credit—Pay of Establishment—Inspectors and Auditors,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 4,39,000 under the head '34C.—Co-operative Credit,' be refused."

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: "That the demand of Rs. 4,39,000 under 'Detailed Account No. 34C. Co-operative Credit,' be reduced by Re. 1."

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY, Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY, Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN, Maulvi SAYEDAL HOQUE, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 17,10,000 under the head '34. Agriculture,' be refused."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand for Rs. 17,10,000 under the head '34. Agriculture,' be reduced by Re. 1."

The motion of the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Ghuznavi under the head "34.—Agriculture" was then put and agreed to.

35.—Industries.

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN GHUZNAVI: I move that a sum of Rs. 9,04,000 be granted for expenses under the head "35.—Industries."

Of this amount Rs. 20,000 is voted supply for the Electric Adviser, Rs. 2,63,000 voted for Cinchona plantations, and Rs. 5,72,000 is voted

supply for Industries transferred, with which last I am more immediately concerned. This demand of Rs. 5,72,000 compares with a demand of Rs. 6,75,000 last year and the revised estimates of Rs. 5,53,000. It is divided into three sub-heads—Direction of Rs. 2,00,000, Development Rs. 84,000, Industrial education, Rs. 3,36,000.

Under Direction there is a reduction of Rs. 51,000, compared to the current year's estimate and Rs. 28,000 compared to the current year's revised estimate. The estimate under consideration will therefore I hope commend itself to the Council. It is a reduction at least for the present. But as the department expands there must be a move in the opposite way and the administration of the Department will cost us more. We can afford to await the development however.

Of this sum of Rs. 2 lakhs for Directions, only Rs. 72,100 is for pay of officers; the rest is for the staff, for rent, contingencies, grants to the Bengal Home Industries Association, etc. Now, Sir, Rs. 72,000 or Rs. 6,000 a month cannot surely be held to be excessive for the officers of this department.

Under Development, we have an estimate of Rs. 84,000, compared to a revised estimate of Rs. 63,000. The main item is the Research Tannery, but as small matters of development crop up periodically and it causes difficulty and delay if we have no funds we have included Rs. 20,000 for them.

The next division of the demand is Education, and here although we have handed back to the Education Department several institutions with which we were not rightly concerned we have an estimate of Rs. 3,36,000 against revised estimates of Rs. 2,88,000. In other words we are taking the Rs. 50,000 saved on Direction and adding it to Education. I do not think the Council realize how many technical and industrial schools we have under the control and guidance of the department. We should like to have a great many more of course. But although we have not as many as we should like to have I think any impartial observer will admit that the Department of Industries has done more since its inauguration for technical and industrial education in Bengal than has been done for it in any period of double the length prior to the formation of the department.

Now let us see how this grant of Rs. 3,36,000 is distributed. Less than 5 per cent. of it goes for inspection and examinations and the other 95 per cent. on good, solid work in the schools and in scholarships, grants-in-aid, etc. A sum of Rs. 1,63,000 will go on our own institutions like the Serampore Institute and our technical schools. A sum of Rs. 20,000 will go in scholarships and a sum of Rs. 86,000 in grants-in-aid. For Mining instruction we shall spend Rs. 22,000 and for the Apprentice Training School at Kanchrapara Rs. 25,310. There remain only a few minor sums, all of which go on necessary and useful purposes

The only possible fault that can be found with this demand appears to me to be that it is too small. I trust it will pass through the Council unscathed otherwise the teaching staff of the Serampore and other teaching institutions cannot have their pay revised—if the Council rejects the demand, which includes of Rs. 28,000 for this purpose.

Government cannot also have the power looms installed in Serampore Institute to teach our young men the profession of modern weaving, and Rs. 86,000 in grants-in-aid to technical schools and Rs. 20,000 in scholarships will go too.

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 20,000 under the head of '35A(*a*). Industries (Reserved) Electric Advisor,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 2,63,000 under the head '35A(*a*). Industries (Reserved) Cinchona Plantations,' be refused."

Maulvi Md. NURUL HAQ CHAUDHURY: "That the demand of Rs. 2,83,000 under the head '35A(*a*). Industries,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand of Rs. 24,000 under the head '35A. Industries Director of Industries—Pay of Officers,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 66,648 under the head '35A(*b*). Industries Director of Industries—Pay of Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 36,648."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand of Rs. 18,000 under the head '35A(*b*).—Industries—Director of Industries—Contribution,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand of Rs. 20,400 under the head '35A(*b*) Industries—Rents, Rates and Taxes—Director of Industries,' be reduced by Rs. 9,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 1,52,000 under the head '35A(*b*).—Industries (Transferred)—Direction,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 8,000 under the head '35A(*b*).—Industries—Pay of Inspector of Schools,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 1,63,000 under the head '35A(*b*).—Industries—Technical and Industrial Schools,' be reduced by Rs 1,000."

Nawab SAIYID NAWAB ALI CHAUDHURI, Khan Bahadur: I move that the demand for Rs. 3,36,000 under the head "35A (*b*).—Industries" be reduced by Re. 1.

The history of the Bengal Department of Industries is well known to every one. It was created immediately before the Reformed Government came into existence and was expected to do a great deal of good to the country and in their anxiety to hand over to the people a department with no dearth of hands and grants, the pre-Reform Government exceeded all natural bounds in their lavishness on this branch of the Administration. Unlike many of the allied departments, it was not created gradually or based on much practical experience and consequently its dimensions and activities were not very seriously supported by the public when one of their representatives was appointed to hold charge of the portfolio under which it came. As soon as I took over charge I commenced thinking over the matter and even before the Retrenchment Committee was thought of I suggested a thorough reorganisation in the internal affairs of the department and thus systematising them.

It has often been said that Bengal is an agricultural country, but even a century ago it was as industrial as it was agricultural. Agriculture embraces all the processes of production of the raw materials, whereas the scope of industry is limited to the manufacture of various articles for our daily use. Think of the enormous amount of raw materials that are being exported annually from this country and imported back as finished products. A nation to live may depend upon agriculture but to flourish, it must organise the industries and utilise as much of the materials raised in the country for the manufacture of various articles as possible.

I have my own ideas about the various industries. In my opinion, the cottage industries are by far the best form in which we can attain an industrial end without being converted into a machine ourselves. Our cottage industries are not the development of to-day, and the very fact that they have survived many economic blows in the past and even determined crushes from interested and influential outsiders, is indicative of their great potentialities. The time is ripe when we must devote a great deal more of energy in the development and reorganisation of these cottages industries, preferably on the basis of co-operation.

Next come all our small industries where up to date machines are used on a small scale and the capitalists are local men running the industry on a local basis just to supply the needs of a small area. Too much industrialisation of the mass by the establishment of big factories

in favoured places is an exotic to our country and its evil effects have often been apparent. "Back to the land" is the motto of many of our Western thinkers and the West also is gradually realising the dangers of the big factories and many a well-wisher of humanity have expressed their views in the strongest terms against a total industrialism of the mass. A man has to be developed as a man and not as a machine.

My entire industrial policy was based on these considerations. First of all it was my idea to have a proper re-survey made of all of our existing cottage industries, most of the existing reports on the subject being practically out of date, and reorganise them on an improved basis. I had always been in sympathy with the Charka movement as in my opinion the Charka can certainly solve our cloth problem to a certain extent not as a business proposition but by utilising leisure for some of the necessaries of life. I have never thought that this alone could bring our emancipation either political or economic. Our agriculturists, who form the bulk of the population really spend 5 to 6 months in actual field operations and the remainder of the year in practically doing nothing, while the womenfolk have more leisure to attend to them. This part of the time can be utilised with great advantage for the development of some cottage industry, be it Charka or something else, and anything produced during these slack hours adds so much to our economic strength.

The smaller industries are also very useful for utilising local products for the purpose of making commodities mainly for local consumption. A small weaving or match-making factory, a small oil, rice, or flour mill, or as a matter of fact any industry requiring a small capital and a small power to run it may improve the surrounding locality to a great extent.

I formulated several schemes in consultation with the experts, official or non-official. A dairy factory, a tobacco factory and several other schemes formed a part of my programme. Financial considerations, however, stood in the way, but now that the expenditure of the Department has been greatly reduced, there is no reason why we should not take them up with the money available from the "cuts." No provision, however, has been made in this direction.

Industrial education has also not been seriously considered. We want more vocational training and the country would have been glad if the Hon'ble the Minister could give us an indication that he has these things in his mind. During my tenure of office, I divided Technical Education into three divisions, and contemplated the remodelling of all such institutions on that line. First, in order of arrangement there was to be a Technological Institute on the most up-to-date lines, next there were to be a less advanced type of schools fitted up with the small power tools and then finally were to be the ordinary Industrial Schools of various kinds. What little apology of an excuse, the Hon'ble the

Minister put forward in connection with the abolition or non-expansion of the Agricultural Schools, viz,, that these schools encouraged discontent, is not applicable to the Industrial Schools, because the demand for a passed student from such institutions is by no means limited. Give the boys a proper training and have a set of young men capable of using their hands for the purpose of earning their bread.

There were several schemes, e.g., the establishment of two junior Technical Schools, and two Elementary Industrial Schools, the provision for a Junior Technical School at Hetampur, and the granting of aids to several non-Government, Technical and Weaving Schools, ready for immediate completion and the Council voted money for them. This money also was withdrawn. Another scheme was to grant scholarships to students for foreign Education and Glass was chosen as a subject. Where have these schemes gone and is it too much for us to expect the Hon'ble the Minister to take them up at an early date? There were other schemes which were also in contemplation but which could not be proceeded with for want of funds. The Council was very much in favour of these schemes as was expressed by the resolution carried therein on the opening of more Technical Schools, one in each Division and the giving of State Scholarships.

I cannot go against the spirit of the day and hence have to protest against any limitation put upon any vocational education and I beg to move the amendment which stands in my name.

In the Department of Industries we have got a Chemist but we have made him a warrior without a sword. He has no laboratory, and, the facilities given to him are not adequate for the purpose of ensuring good work. Now that the departmental expenses have been considerably reduced the first item of expenditure should be to intensify the activities of the existing staff by giving them materials to work with, else their retention would be worse than useless.

Babu DEBI PROSAD KHAITAN: I should like to speak on this motion.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I did not think you would care to speak on this motion, as you had already spoken on the last.

Babu DEBI PROSAD KHAITAN: I am very much surprised, Sir, to find that I am expected not to speak on this resolution because I spoke on another motion dealing with the Agricultural Department. I do not really understand what connection the Department of the Industries has with the Department of Agriculture, except that both the departments are under the same Minister.

So far as industries are concerned, I have always taken a deep interest in the development of industries not only in this Province but in the country as a whole, and I am sorry to find that sufficient steps

have not yet been taken in order to further the development of industries in this Province. It is a notorious fact that Bengal, except as regards the jute industry and similar industries, so far as the Indian people are concerned, is one of the most backward provinces in the whole of India as regards industries. The poverty of the people is much due to the fact that industries have not been sufficiently developed and it is for this purpose that the Nawab Saheb promised about 2 years ago that the State Aid to Industries Bill would soon be introduced in this Council. But it is a matter of surprise and sorrow that that Bill has not yet been introduced in this House, although similar Bills have been passed in the Bihar Council and the Madras Council, and I hope that the Hon'ble Minister, when he speaks in reply, will give some assurance to the House that the State Aid to Industries Bill will soon be introduced, and the people of the Province will be helped in all possible ways to develop industries.

The second point for the development of industries is banking facilities, and nobody has yet heard what the Government has done beyond opening a few branches of the Imperial Bank in order to provide banking facilities with a view to further industries in this Province. Neither is it known to us what steps have been taken in other directions besides the local banking facilities in order that the people of the Province may take to industries and thus remove their poverty.

The Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. ABU AHMED KHAN CHUZNAVI: I have listened again with very great attention to what the Nawab Saheb has said in respect of my Department of Industries, and I can assure him that I shall give his suggestions my careful attention. I am sure that he will be only too glad to help me in the subjects with which he himself had been dealing in the last three years.

As regards what Mr. Khaitan has said, I can assure him that the State Aid to Industries Bill is under consideration, and I shall endeavour to expedite the matter as far as possible.

The motion of Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali Chaudhuri, Khan Bahadur, was then, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 36,000 under the head '35A(*b*). Industries Grant-in-aid,' be reduced by Rs. 12,000."

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I move that the demand of Rs. 5,72,000 under the head "35A(*b*)—Industries (Transferred)" be refused.

From the book that has been circulated to us, I mean the White Book, it will appear that the amount of Rs. 5,72,000 has been distributed into several sub-sections. We find under "Direction" a sum of

Rs. 1,52,000 that can be voted, and at the same time we find under "Industrial Development, Calcutta Research Tannery" a sum of Rs. 84,000 that can be voted; at the same time under "Inspection" we find a sum of Rs. 15,000 that can be voted. But there is no provision for the school called the School of Art, which I believe has been abolished on the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee, but we find under the head "Technical and Industrial Schools" there is a sum of Rs. 1,63,000 that can be voted, and under "Scholarships," "Grants-in-aid" and "Miscellaneous" we find Rs. 20,000, Rs. 86,000 and Rs. 52,000, respectively. In this connection, I remember what my friend Mr. Mitter said that there appeared in the newspaper a report that about 1,200 men had been served with notices of discharge or that Government contemplated giving these men notice with three months' compensation. In this way the amount that is under Direction comes to Rs. 2,00,000. In that we find there is a Director receiving a pay of Rs. 2,250 a month, two other officers receiving one thousand a month each and an officer receiving Rs. 1,800, the total being Rs. 72,100 out of which Rs. 24,000 is voted. Then comes 32 clerks. In the year 1923-24 the number of clerks was 52 but in 1924-25 the number has been reduced by 20. At the same time we find that in the year 1923-24 the number of chaprasis and servants was 35 and in this year it is 17. So there has been a reduction of 18 here. A sum of Rs. 62,648 is wanted for the clerks and servants and a sum of Rs. 4,000 is wanted for their leave allowances. So, Sir, if the Government could dispense with the services of 20 clerks and 18 servants and if we do not vote the amount for the clerical establishment then another 32 men and 17 servants would be done away with. The Government is quite callous about the fate of these men as it has already turned out 20 men and 18 servants. At the same time, Sir, a sum of Rs. 9,000 has been provided for Travelling Allowance under the head Direction and we find that a sum of Rs. 18,000 is being asked for for the purpose of contribution and grants and a sum of Rs. 20,400 has been provided for rent, rates and taxes. A sum of Rs. 3,500 has been provided for the purchase of books, etc., and a sum of Rs. 10,000 for other contingent charges. Sir, not being an accountant it passes my comprehension to know what this sum of Rs. 10,000 under the head "Other Contingent Charges" can mean?

Then, Sir, I come to the heading Industrial Development, and under this head we find that there is only the tannery—the Calcutta Research Tannery. I do not know how much the country has been benefited by such a research tannery although the amount of money that is being spent on this is about Rs. 84,000. In the year 1923-24 the sum under the Revised Estimate was Rs. 63,000 and this year the sum has been increased by Rs. 21,000 more and in that sum we find there is a gazetted officer drawing a salary of Rs. 750 a month and an establishment costing as much as Rs. 18,300. But in this case the Hon'ble Finance

Member or the Minister who runs the department has not shown us how many clerks there are or how many servants there are so that we could be exact. Then, Sir, under this head we also find a sum of Rs. 3,000 provided for Travelling Allowance and House Rent and other Allowances. Taking Rs. 9,000 as Travelling Allowance under Direction and Rs. 3,000 under Calcutta Research Tannery the total amount under Travelling Allowance comes to Rs. 12,000. Then, Sir, a contingency item comes in, and under that mysterious item a sum of Rs. 33,700 is being asked for and just beneath this item there is the item of lump provision for development of industries for which a sum of Rs. 20,000 is asked for. So the total lump provision is Rs. 53,700. My remarks on the head Direction are equally applicable to this head also. I do not understand why for only one gazetted officer drawing Rs. 750 a month and an establishment costing Rs. 18,300 a sum of Rs. 3,000 for travelling allowance, Rs. 33,700 for contingency and a lump sum of Rs. 20,000 for the development of industries, should be provided. Last year in the estimate of 1923-24 no such sum was asked for.

Then, Sir, I come to Inspection. In this we find there is one Inspector on a salary of Rs. 8,000 a year, but under the Inspector there is no clerk, no servant, no travelling allowance, and it is most surprising that the Inspector of Technical Schools and Industries who ought to be touring has not been provided with any travelling allowance and I do not understand what is the use in asking us to vote a sum of Rs. 8,000 for the Inspector when we do not provide anything for his travelling allowance and whose duty is to go and inspect offices, tanneries or research institutes. I appeal to my friends of the European community that they ought to be the foremost men in this Council to go against this grant when nothing could be shown in favour of it. Then, Sir, I find a sum of Rs. 7,000 for Charges for Joint Technical Examination Board, but in the heading beneath it "Deduct amount recoverable from Bihar and Orissa on account of Joint Technical Examination Board" nothing has been shown. I think the sum of Rs 15,000 is unnecessary and we ought to do away with the post of the Inspector.

Then I come to the other head Technical and Industrial Schools. In that we find that this year there will be an increase of three posts. Last year there were 72 officers, but this year the number is going to be increased to 75 and the amount asked for for the pay of the "Principals and other teaching staff 1,200 and less" is Rs. 76,290. Then a lump provision of Rs. 28,000 has been provided for the revision of pay of the teaching staff. So the Principals and the teachers among themselves take the amount of Rs. 1,04,290 and there are two pupil teachers who receive each Rs. 20 a month and for whom a sum of Rs. 480 is being asked for. Last year the number of clerks was 10, but this year there is a reduction of 3. That means that there are 7 clerks and the amount asked for them is Rs. 5,150. Although there is a reduction still the

amount that asked for is more by Rs. 100 than last year's figure. There is another item with a sum of Rs. 5,860 for the pay of 35 servants whose pay ranges from Rs. 17 and less, but last year the number was 34 and this year there is an increase by one. Under this head, that is, Technical and Industrial Schools, we find Rs. 6,000 under travelling allowance and we do not know whether the Principal or the teaching staff go on touring. When we find that under Inspection no sum has been provided for travelling allowance for the Inspector of Technical Schools, I cannot understand why the Principal and the teaching staff should get any such allowance because, so far as I understand, they do not do any travelling. Then, under house rent and other allowances a sum of Rs. 3,500 has been provided, but I think that this sum ought not to be provided for officers who are drawing a handsome salary as this sum seems to be an additional income of the Principal and the teachers. Then, Sir, I come to the head Purchase and Repair of Appliances, and for this a sum of Rs. 6,000 is asked for. I have no quarrel with prizes, etc., if there are prizes for students they ought to get them. Then, Sir, I come to Contract Contingencies for which a sum of Rs. 3,500 has been provided. Then comes other contingencies for which a sum of Rs. 27,500 is wanted and under that item Rs. 500 is wanted for the purchase of books, etc., and Rs. 7,000 for rents, rates and taxes, and for omnibus and other contingent charges a sum of Rs. 20,000 is asked for. So, Sir, under Technical and Industrial Schools we find a sum of Rs. 1,63,000 which should be voted, but, Sir, I do not know up to now what benefit would accrue to the country by spending such a huge sum. Last year the provision was for Rs. 1,74,000, but the revised estimate is Rs. 1,19,000 and I congratulate the Hon'ble Finance Member for a huge reduction under this item, but this year a sum of Rs. 1,63,000 is wanted. So the reduction that was made last year is going to be swallowed by the present year's expenditure. Then, Sir, we have got an item for scholarships and under that we find that a sum of Rs. 19,000 is provided for scholarships in schools of art and a sum of Rs. 500 for scholarships in industrial schools.

Mr. PRESIDENT: No, Rs. 19,000 is for industrial schools and Rs. 500 for other schools.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I beg your pardon, Sir. There is no provision for scholarships tenable in England and nothing for schools of art. Only a sum of Rs. 19,000 for the industrial schools, Rs. 500 for other schools, and a sum of Rs. 500 for rounding, that is, a total of Rs. 20,000 has been provided for. Then, Sir, we come to the head Other Grants for which Rs. 2,000 is wanted. Sir, under every item we find other grants, other grants, other grants. I do not understand what is meant by other grants. Is it provided for the Minister in charge so that he may make dispensations out of it when he

goes to the districts saying—" I pay you 500, I pay you 600," and so on, thereby making his name shine in the places which he visits. Sir, we, the members, who are here ought to know the details of the administration, the details of expenses, and it is up to my friends, the Minister and the Finance Member, who have got all the knowledge of the expenditure under their control, at least to give the members an idea how a modern democratic government is carried on though they may not see eye to eye with them and though they may disagree with them, and though their idea may be quite different from theirs. It is necessary for all of us, whether swarajists or non-swarajists to know exactly what these things mean. In this connection I have seen many " other grants," " contingent charges " and all these sorts of things.

Now, Sir, I come to the head, Miscellaneous, and under this head we find a sum of Rs. 1,200 for Amin Examination charges and then a sum of Rs. 22,220 for Mining Instruction in coal-fields. A sum of Rs. 400 is also asked for for Contribution to Schools for Durbar Day, and Rs. 1,000 for Allowances to Medical Officers for attending boardings, hostels, etc., and a very big sum is being provided for Contribution to the Eastern Bengal Railway for the Kanchrapara Technical School. I do not think this sum of Rs 25,310 should be given to the Eastern Bengal Railway and the reason for this is that the Eastern Bengal Railway is a Government railway and it has got all its mileage within the Province of Bengal. I do not know whether any mileage of this railway falls within any other province except a few within the Province of Assam, and if this be a State railway and if it is exclusively within the Province of Bengal, then the children of the soil are entitled to get education free there and they should not ask the Government of Bengal to contribute a sum of Rs. 25,310. It is a part of the duty of the railway to teach boys so that they may get workers. The time has come when we should not have any man from outside to run our railways.

Mr. PRESIDENT: We cannot go into the subject of railway administration. You have been through all these items one by one, but I cannot have any discussion of railway administration.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I bow to your ruling, Sir. But I say that the railway cannot ask the Government of Bengal to contribute the sum of Rs. 25,310 for teaching or giving instruction to the children of the soil I mean boys who go there for the purpose of technical studies. I think, Sir, this is most unjust, most inequitable, for a railway which is a State Railway, to ask the Government of Bengal to provide this amount. Sir, the other two items that are there are the Contribution to the Board of Control for apprenticeship training and provision for expenses in connection with the lower grade technological examination of City and Guilds of London Institute, and for these a

sum of Rs. 1,750 is asked for. So, Sir, under Scholarship we find Rs. 20,000, under Grant-in-aid Rs. 86,000, and under Miscellaneous Rs. 52,000, altogether Rs. 1,58,000. Sir, this sum of Rs. 5,72,000 that is being spent on Industries is being spent for nothing, and if this amount could be set apart for education in other directions, or for providing good water-supply for us or for the prevention of malaria or kala-azar, the money would be better spent.

With these words I propose that the sum of Rs. 5,72,000 under the head "35A (*b*). Industries (Transferred)" be refused.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: The question of the refusal of such a large grant as Rs. 5,72,000 out of a total demand of Rs. 9,04,000 raises a constitutional position which requires our most serious and anxious consideration. It has been reiterated times without number that His Excellency has no power——

Mr. PRESIDENT: I cannot allow any essay to be read or a lecture to be given on the constitutional issue. The whole question is—are there any reasons for this grant to be refused?

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: I was attempting, Sir, to put forward some reasons before the Council as to how we should act in considering this question because, after all, a large cut of Rs. 5,72,000 is bound to place the administration in an awkward situation.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am bound to assume that if a certain argument be advanced for refusal, that argument must be directed to the merits or demerits of the matter under discussion.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: I desire to raise this question quite apart from the question of industries.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Then we cannot have it.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: After all I am pointing out that if we cut down the grant by Rs. 5,72,000 the result will be that certain officers of the Department of Industries are likely to be dismissed, and a constitutional position will be created.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I do not at all follow that. If the consequences foreshadowed by you follow, then it must be assumed that either these officers are not doing their duty or they are incapable. I do not see that any constitutional question can arise over a matter like this.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: We are not at the present moment considering whether these officers are necessary or not.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am bound by the terms of the motion on the paper. The terms are that the demand of Rs. 5,72,000 under the head "35A(*b*).—Industries (Transferred)" be refused. Now, the refusal of that demand may perhaps involve the dismissal of certain officers, and if this be the consequence of this motion it must be assumed that either these officers are incapable or that there is no use for them.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: I desire to say that this question ought to have our serious consideration. We ought to consider if by passing this amendment a certain number of officers are dismissed, whether we should pass it or not. Surely, Sir, we can raise this question from a constitutional point of view.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I cannot allow a speech on the constitutional issue.

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: Is not the hon'ble member in order in appealing to the House on this particular question that they ought not to be swayed by what happened yesterday?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I do not know what happened yesterday: that is my difficulty.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: Cannot we bring to your notice what happened yesterday?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I am not concerned in the least as to what happened outside this Council. I now rule that Mr. Suhrawardy is not in order in entering into the constitutional aspect of the question.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: If you allow us to mention the matter, we can explain the thing. But you will not allow us to do that. The moment we mention this you stop us.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I listened with very great patience to the last speaker who kept his speech within the bounds of the matter under discussion. Now I am asked to admit speeches on some constitutional issue or other. As I have already said, we are only concerned now with the refusal of this sum of money. If it involves the dismissal of certain officers it must be assumed that these officers are either incapable or there is no use for them. No constitutional issue can arise over this question.

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: May we have your ruling on this point—that if under a constitution where the Governor is not the President of this Council, he invites certain members of this House and discusses with them as to the manner in which they should vote, would that be a constitutional position which we can discuss?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I cannot possibly give such a ruling. It is not my business to give a ruling in regard to the action of the Governor.

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: Is it not our duty to disabuse the minds of those members who might have been indirectly influenced by His Excellency yesterday?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I cannot understand what it is all about. All I can say is I am now being asked to give a ruling on the conduct of His Excellency. It is not only out of order, but I refuse to give a ruling.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Sir, supposing in England the King sends for certain members of the House of Parliament and tries to influence their votes duly or unduly one side or the other, would not the conduct of the King be discussed in Parliament? I think it can be discussed.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Banerjee, that question does not arise at all.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: As regards Mr. Suhrawardy's point he has got certain information, whether from a reliable source or not—that is not the question—and he wants to convey that information to the House. Is he in order or not?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Banerjee, you are travelling very wide from the point from which we started. The point is whether Mr. Suhrawardy is in order in raising during the course of his speech a constitutional issue. I ruled him out of order. It is an exfraneous matter which you are introducing now. I should like to point out to you in the first place that every speech must be strictly relevant to the matter under discussion and that the President is the judge of that. The next point is that members while speaking must not reflect upon the conduct of His Majesty the King, His Excellency the Governor-General, the Governors of any Province or any Courts of Justice. These rules are absolutely definite and are to be found in the Manual. Therefore, we cannot have any discussion to-day with regard to the conduct of His Excellency the Governor in calling or not calling any meeting or giving or not giving any advice.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: I had not the least desire to say anything on the conduct of His Excellency the Governor when I rose to speak. It was my purpose merely to construe the Act and point out to the House that the limitations which His Excellency placed upon his powers are not such limitations that we are bound to accept.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Suhrawardy, the whole of that position was explored during the general discussion on the budget. I have

heard several members on the point who argued that His Excellency was incorrect. Again, on the item of Land Revenue, the whole of that position was explored over and over again. We cannot do that day after day.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: I myself never touched on the subject in any of my speeches before.

Mr. PRESIDENT: If you are late in the day and wish now to make a speech touching a point which has already been fully discussed, you are out of order. There is no attempt at burking discussion, but you must understand that the matter has been fully discussed and speech after speech was made on the subject. I allowed full and free discussion on this matter and you cannot go back to it on a motion which proposes to make a cut of Rs. 5,72,000 from the Industries grant.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: On a point of order, Sir. May I not point out that a situation might arise similar to that in the Central Provinces which His Excellency the Governor of that Province did not foresee when the budget discussion was going on? We do not know whether such a situation will arise here.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I cannot allow that. It is quite out of order to discuss what His Excellency the Governor of the Central Provinces has or has not done.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: All that I desire to place before the House is that a particular situation might arise if the Act is construed in a particular manner. If such a big cut is made the posts of a number of officers might be affected and am I not entitled to warn the members of the other side of the House about it?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have told you that the House has explored the whole subject before.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: Can I not even warn the House that a situation like that might arise in respect of such a cut? Can I not even explain to them that the perversity of the law officers of the Crown may bring about such a situation?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I cannot permit that.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: Sir, it is not a reference to the conduct of His Majesty the King, the Governor-General or the Governor of any province. It only refers to the law officers of the Crown.

Mr. PRESIDENT: But why the word "perversity?"

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: I say that a situation may arise and we have got to be extremely careful when we make such a big cut.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I quite agree with that. That is why I cannot have the same discussion from day to day.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: If you rule that I cannot even discuss that a situation may arise in this country if we refuse the budget, then of course——

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is not my ruling.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: That is what I desire to place before the House that a situation may arise.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: May I add one word to this? It is a matter of every-day occurrence for the members of the House, when moving resolutions or amendments, to always tell the other members of the House the reason why they should vote on one side or the other. Am I not entitled, on a particular matter, to appeal to the members of the House not to be guided by any racial consideration? Similarly, is it not a fundamental right of members of the House to explain why they should, or should not, vote for or against a particular amendment? One view of the matter was placed before them by His Excellency. If anybody thinks and feels that that view is wrong, is it or is it not his fundamental right to tell the other members that that view is a wrong view? It is not so much the conduct of His Excellency the Governor that is under discussion. It is only a question of a particular view of the law that His Excellency has placed before us.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Akhil Babu, I think that perhaps I have given so much latitude in the debates on these demands for grants that you have been rather led astray. If I had acted strictly within the provisions of section 14 of the Manual no speech would have been permitted upon any of the amendments unless it was strictly confined to the particular matter that was being submitted to the Council. I am very anxious not to shut out discussion. Therefore, I have permitted a large number of speeches which had only a remote connection with the matter before the Council—especially in connection with the Land Revenue administration when I permitted a large number of speeches which dealt directly with the issue which is said to have been put before the Council by His Excellency the Governor. Technically speaking, all those speeches were out of order. I have been very lenient with the Council throughout the last ten days during which period there was a large number of speeches which were quite out of order. I repeat that because I did not wish to shut out discussion I permitted those speeches. But a time comes when we cannot have the

whole matter that was raised during the discussion on Land Revenue raised again on this vote on Industries. After all, there must be a limit and I hope hon'ble members will not take advantage of the great latitude I have given them in order to take further privileges which are really not permitted to them under the rules.

Mr. C. R. DAS: May I ask if reference is made to what happened yesterday, how can it be taken to be covered by the speeches which were made days ago?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I do not know what happened yesterday.

Mr. C. R. DAS: Something did happen yesterday. According to our information fifty-six members of this House were asked to attend a Conference. Are we not in order to point out to those fifty-six members that their votes should not be given on any consideration which was urged or discussed there? Is it within our right or is it not?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I do not see how it arises in this connection.

Mr. C. R. DAS: In this way. Supposing the whole budget was discussed and this item is a part of the whole budget. Therefore, anything which influences the votes of the members is, I submit, open to discussion here. If this is not in order, may I ask what is our duty here? Why should we speak at all, if not to influence votes and to persuade the members one way or the other? Whatever occurred yesterday, if it had any effect on the minds of the members, is it or is it not our duty to remove that idea from their minds? And how can that be done unless free discussion is allowed? If not, I do not see how we can take part in this discussion at all. We are going on with the budget discussion. Suddenly, a Conference is called to which only a section of the House is invited What took place there I do not know. But we are under the impression that something was said, something was discussed about the budget. To my mind, it is a grave constitutional issue and that if we are not permitted to remind the members of this House as to their duty—that their duty is to avoid any impression which they might have received there—I submit to the House it is no use asking people to vote or to make speeches at all.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You need not put it to the House. You should put it to me.

Mr. C. R. DAS: Yes, I am putting it to you. I am putting it to you that if it is not permissible to make a reference to what happened yesterday, and to ask the members of this House not to vote in a particular way because of something which might have happened yesterday, what are we to do here? What speeches are we to make? What is the

use of making speeches unless they are intended to influence the votes of the members here? I submit it is a grave constitutional issue and if your ruling is——

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have not given my ruling yet. I desire first of all to say that speeches are not always made for the purpose of influencing votes. Take, for instance, Mr. Nurul Huq Chaudhury's speech which was delivered a little time ago. I listened to the speech and I did not find in it any attempt at influencing votes. Therefore, speeches are not always made for that purpose. I adhere to my ruling that on this particular item 917 it is not in order to go into the constitutional issue, but when we come to motion No. 920 and the whole matter comes up to the rejection of the whole demand, then, within limits, I shall be prepared to permit a discussion on the constitutional issue. But I cannot have any reflection on the conduct of His Excellency and if the discussion takes place upon some matter which is said to have occurred yesterday, members must be careful to keep within the bounds of the rules and standing orders.

Mr. C. R. DAS: We are bound to accept your ruling, but we feel, Sir, that it is no use going to vote on any question before this question is discussed and finally settled.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You can have a discussion on item 920.

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: Sir, may I move for the adjournment of the House in order to have a full discussion on this point to clear the air?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Dr. Banerjea, you know that under the rules the House cannot be adjourned now. I cannot allow that.

Sir GEORGE GODFREY: I move that the question be now put.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I accept the motion. The question before the House is——

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: On a point of order, Sir. I submit I am in possession of the House and the point of order which I have raised is under discussion.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have ruled you out of order and your fifteen minutes is up.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: This discussion has taken up my whole time and I did not hear the bell going.

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is not my fault.

Mr. NISITH CHANDRA SEN: On a point of order, Sir. When a speaker is in the middle of his speech, can a member rise and move the closure?

Mr. PRESIDENT: You know very well, Mr. Sen, that Mr. Suhrawardy was not in the middle of his speech.

The motion for closure being put, a division was taken with the following result:—

AYES.

Addams-Williams, Mr. C.
Ahmed, Maulvi Tayebuddin.
Alay, Mr. S. Mahboob.
Banerjee, Rai Bahadur Abinash Chandra.
Barma, Rai Sahib Panchanan.
Barton, Mr. H.
Basu, Babu Jatindra Nath.
Beg, Khan Bahadur Mirza Shuja'at Ali.
Carey, Sir Willoughby.
Chaudhuri, Nawab Saiyid Nawab Ali, Khan Bahadur.
Chaimuddin, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Md.
Chowdhury, Maulvi Fazlal Karim.
Cochran, Mr. A.
Cohen, Mr. D. J.
Cooper, Mr. C. C.
Corcoran, Mr. S. J.
Cottle, Mr. J.
Das, Babu Charu Chandra.
Dey, Mr. C. C.
Donald, the Hon'ble Mr. J.
Donovan, Mr. J. T.
Dass, Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal.
Dutt, Mr. C. S.
Emerson, Mr. T.
Farequi, Mr. K. C. M.
Forrester, Mr. J. Campbell.
Ghuznavi, the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan.
Godfrey, Sir George.
Goenka, Babu Badridas.
Gordon, Mr. A. D.
Guha, Mr P. N.
Haq, Khan Bahadur Kazi Zahirul.
Hussain, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Musharruf.
Huq, Maulvi Ekramul.
Huq, the Hon'ble Maulvi A. K. Fazl-ul.
Khaitan, Babu Debi Prosad.
Khan, Babu Debendra Lal.
Lal Mahammed, Haji.
Law, Raja Rushee Case.
Liddell, Mr. H. C.
Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the.
Marr, Mr. A.
Masih, Mr. Syed M.
McAlpin, Mr. M. C.
Mitter, Mr. Prevash Chunder.
Moberly, Mr. A. N.
Morene, Dr. H. W. B.
Mukerji, Mr. S. C.
Nazimuddin, Khaja.
Oaten, Mr. E. F.
Pakiewan, Maulvi Md. Abdul Jubbar.
Philip, Mr. J. Y.
Rahim, the Hon'ble Sir Abd-ur-.
Rahman, Mr. A. F.
Ross, Mr. C. F.
Roy, Mr. S. N.
Ray, Mr. Tarit Bhusan.
Ray, Raja Manilell Singh.
Roy Chaudhuri, Mr. K. C.
Roy Choudhuri, Saha Brajendra Kishore.
Salam, Khan Bahadur Maulvi Abdus.
Sarkar, Maulvi Allah Bukah.
Stephenson, the Hon'ble Sir Hugh.
Stuart-Williams, Mr. S. C.
Swan, Mr. J. A. L.
Travers, Mr. W. L.
Villiers, Mr. Edward.
Wilson, Mr. R. S.

NOES.

Ahamad, Maulvi Asimuddin.
Ahmed, Maulvi Zanneer.
Bagchi, Babu Romes Chandra.
Banerjee, Dr. Pramathanath.
Banerjee, Babu Satya Kishore.
Banerjee, Mr. Ashiny Coomar.
Basu, Babu Sarat Chandra.
Bose, Babu Bejoy Krishna.
Chakraverti, Babu Jogindra Chandra.
Chakravorty, Babu Sudarsan.
Chatterjee, Babu Umes Chandra.
Chaudhuri, Rai Harendranath.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq.
Chaudhury, Maulvi Saiyed Abdur Rub.
Chunder, Mr. Nirmal Chandra.
Das, Dr. Mohini Mohen.
Das, Mr. C. R.
Das Gupta, Dr. J. M.
Datta, Babu Akhil Chandra.
Dey, Babu Sereda Prosad.
Gafur, Maulvi Abdul.
Ganguly, Babu Khagendra Nath.
Haldar, Mr. S. N.
Haq, Shah Syed Emdadul.
Hoque, Maulvi Sayedal.
Hossain, Maulvi Wahed.
Jeardar, Maulvi Aftab Hossain.
Khan, Maulvi Abdur Rashid.

Khan, Maulvi Amanat.
Khan, Maulvi Mahi Uddin.
Mahammad, Maulvi Basar.
Maity, Babu Mahendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Jogendra Nath.
Mitra, Babu Satyendra Chandra.
Mukerjea, Babu Taraknath.
Nasker, Babu Hem Chandra.
Neogi, Babu Manmohen.
Quader, Maulvi Abdul.
Raikat, Mr. Prasanna Deb.
Ray, Babu Abanish Chandra.
Ray, Babu Anilbaran.
Ray, Babu Surendra Nath.
Ray, Dr. Kumud Sankar.
Ray, Kumar Shib Shekhareswar.
Roy, Babu Manmatha Nath.
Roy, Dr. Bidhan Chandra.
Roy, Mr. D. N.
Roy, Mr. Kiran Sankar.
Ray, Mr. Satcowripati.
Roy Chaudhuri, Babu Sailaja Nath.
Sarkar, Babu Hemanta Kumar.
Sarkar, Babu Nalinranjan.
Sasmal, Mr. Birendra Nath.
Sen, Mr. Nisith Chandra.
Sen Gupta, Mr. J. M.
Singha, Mr. Arun Chandra
Suhrawardy, Dr. A.
Suhrawardy, Mr. Huseyn Shaheed.
Tarafdar, Maulvi Rajb Uddin.
Yasin, Maulvi Muhammad.

The Ayes being 68 and the Noes 60, the motion was lost as the necessary two-thirds majority was not obtained.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I propose to adjourn the House now for ten minutes. But before doing so, I should like to suggest to the House that they should allow motion No. 917 to go through. They can then take a general discussion on motion No. 920 which is the motion for the rejection of the whole demand.

[The Council was then adjourned for ten minutes.]

[After the adjournment.]

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: Sir, I was in possession of the House and I may point out——

Mr. PRESIDENT: You have already spoken.

Mr. HUSEYN SHAHEED SUHRAWARDY: May I point out, Sir, on a point of order, that whenever time has been wasted over an interpellation or things of that kind that time has been allowed to the speaker whose time was thus taken up? I have known several instances when Hon'ble Members and Ministers have been permitted to exceed their time when it has been wasted by interruptions. I, therefore, claim the privilege of being allowed to continue my speech.

Mr. PRESIDENT: If you want to go on with the constitutional issue, you will have to postpone your remarks until we come to the proper occasion which is under motion No. 920.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: I should like to say a few words.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Are you speaking on motions 915 and 917, Mr. Banerjee?

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANEJEE: Yes, Sir.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I must mention to you and all others that the discussion on this subject closes at 5-50 P.M., and if, therefore, any more time is taken up with a further discussion of motions 915 and

917 that will shorten the time at the disposal of the Council for the discussion of motion No. 920.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: It is impossible——

The Hon'ble the MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR of BURDWAN: I rise to a point of order, Sir. I want your ruling about the 10 minutes for adjournment for prayer; whether it would be included within the time allotted to the discussion of this subject.

Mr. PRESIDENT: On this occasion I have taken it into consideration and fixed 5-50 as the closing time.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Discussing this item, it is impossible, Sir, to avoid what has been described and very rightly described as a constitutional issue——

Mr. PRESIDENT: Are you, Mr. Banerjee, persisting, in spite of my ruling in making a speech on the constitutional issue? Are you prepared to obey my ruling or not?

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: It is impossible to avoid, and at the same time, in avoiding one feels impelled to try and convince the House by the fact that in coming to a decision they are not to be influenced and unduly influenced by the entreaties of His Excellency——

Mr. PRESIDENT: Do I understand you to use the word "intrigues," Mr. Banerjee? In that case I cannot allow that.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: No, Sir, I used the word "entreaties".

Mr. PRESIDENT: Thank you. I could not hear you properly from this distance.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: If they do so, they will be guilty of having sacrificed the independence and freedom of their thought and action. It is an open secret as to what happened at that conference——

Mr. PRESIDENT: You are still disobeying my ruling, Mr. Banerjee! You will have an opportunity of discussing this question under motion No. 920. I have told you so several times.

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: It may quite happen, Sir, that motions 918 and 919 may be withdrawn. In that case the constitutional issue cannot be debated.

Mr. PRESIDENT: You will have an opportunity when the motion that the demand be granted is discussed. The House should bear in mind that this discussion automatically closes at 5-50 P.M., and no further discussion can take place after that.

M. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: May I ask that our votes be not unduly influenced?

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is not a point of order, Mr. Banerjee.

SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE and INDUSTRIES (Mr. J. T. Donovan): I think the House will remember that the mover of this resolution, Maulvi Nurul Huq Chaudhuri, was called to order quite recently in connection with his characterisation of himself and of his party as school boys.

Mr. PRESIDENT: We do not want a further reference to that.

Mr. J. T. DONOVAN: I was about to congratulate Maulvi Nurul Huq Chaudhury upon his reading lesson this evening. He has carefully taken us through every stage of this budget and through every figure, and with your permission, Sir, I propose as carefully to go through this budget and explain all the different figures which have puzzled the mover so much.

The first item to which the mover has invited the attention of the House was the voted sum of Rs. 24,000 under the head "Direction." Now, Sir, this sum is a sum voted for a chemist and an engineer in the Department of Industries. As a matter of fact the post of engineer is vacant and has been vacant for some time, but it is hoped that we shall soon be able to fill it. The other post is the post of chemist. It is held by a distinguished Indian officer and I think the House will agree that for a department like the Department of Industries, the object of which is to help and promote new industries in this Province, a chemist and an engineer are necessary. I trust, therefore, there will be no difficulty on the part of the House in accepting this voted sum of Rs. 24,000.

The mover invited our attention to the reduction in the number of clerks from 50 to 32. This is a consequence of the great retrenchments which took place last year. As a matter of fact full effect has not been given to these recommendations as yet, and that is why the reduction is not in proportion to the number of clerks shown in the different columns. Had there been such a proportion the reduction would have been considerably more.

A similar statement applies to the number of servants which have been reduced from 35 to 17.

Under the head "travelling allowance" the sum of Rs. 9,000 is really a comparatively small sum for the officers who have to travel. There are three or four officers and, as a matter of fact, the travelling allowance of the Inspector of Technical Schools will probably have to come partly out of this grant. Therefore, there need be no surprise or misgiving on the part of the House in regard to this figure of Rs. 9,000.

The next item is an item called "contributions and grants" Rs. 18,000. That item is meant as a contribution towards the Bengal Home

Industries Association; it is an annual contribution which Government have given for many years to this Association and the Association has been induced to rely upon that grant, and relying upon that amount it has entered into contracts, and taken leases of its premises and it would be very unfortunate for them if, without any due warning, we were now to deprive them of this 18,000.

The next item is the purchase of books. A department like the Department of Industries must keep itself up-to-date and provide itself with engineering and chemical works which are daily appearing. A provision of Rs. 3,500 for a matter of this kind is no great amount and I trust that the Council will see its way to grant it.

Rents, rates and taxes—Rs. 20,400—look to be a very large sum, but that is for the very big building in which the Department of Industries is housed. The Council—some of the members at least—are probably aware that besides the Department of Industries there are other departments housed in that building also.

The next sum is for contingent charges. These charges are required to run the offices of the Department of Industries and when you think of it, a sum of Rs. 19,000 is not a large sum to expend on the contingencies of a very important office of this kind.

Babu ANILBARAN RAY: What is contingency?

Mr. J. T. DONOVAN: Contingency includes the purchase of such things as writing materials, stamps, telegraph charges and other items of that nature. It will be noticed that there is no provision for publicity and there is a sum of Rs. 352 for rounding which is merely a trick of the Finance Department, if I may say so.

In industrial development we have said that the main development is research in the tannery. The Calcutta Research Tannery is now well-known throughout India. Students want to come to this research tannery as apprentices from all parts of India and even from some of the Native States applications come in for apprenticeships in the tannery.

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: Do the Native States pay anything?

Mr. J. T. DONOVAN: Every apprentice from outside this Province has to pay sufficient to cover the cost of his training each year. The estimate is something like—I am speaking from memory—Rs. 1,400 to Rs. 1,800 per annum, but if the mover wishes to know the details of this particular item I shall be very happy to place them at his disposal, or, for the matter of that at the disposal of any other member of this House.

Mr. C. R. DAS: Thanks.

Mr. J. T. DONOVAN: Under the head "Establishment" there is an item—Gazetted officers. These officers are in charge of the tannery. Under the head establishment the hon'ble member was looking for clerks and peons, but I can assure him that the establishment of the research tannery contains very many people who are not clerks and peons.

There is an item of Rs. 3,000 for travelling allowance. This travelling allowance is in connection with the tannery staff which is sometimes sent out to the mufassal to teach *muchis* and people of that kind how to work with modern tanning methods. This has been done throughout the Province in various places ever since the Department was started.

Now comes a very big item and I am not surprised that it has caused consternation in the mind of the mover. It is a sum of Rs. 33,700. This item of contingencies actually means the money with which all the raw materials utilised in the research tannery are purchased. The research tannery is a modern tannery working on modern lines, turning out a large quantity of leather for which a large quantity of hides and chemicals are required. The contingent charges include, as I have said, the sum provided for the purchase of raw materials.

There is a lump provision for "development of industries." In the course of the year questions occasionally crop up affecting the industries in the districts and the Department finds that some attention is necessary in the way of improving methods or making experiments with better machinery; and if there is no provision for experiments or attempts of this nature in the budget it is impossible to get on with them during the current year and we have to wait till the end of the year when we may be able to reappropriate or till the following year when we may be able to make provision. In order to anticipate these things we have made a small provision of Rs. 20,000 under the head development of industries.

The next item is industrial education. This is naturally the most important section of the Industries Department at present because in modern times the industrial development of a country must be preceded by intense industrial education. I doubt, Sir, if this Council fully realises the extent of industrial education that has been carried on in this Province. There are about 120 industrial or technical schools in various parts of the Province. Many of these have been established within recent years and the grants which we give them—these are shown further down—will give the members some idea of the extent to which they are aided by Government. There are nearly 120 schools of this kind and if there is nobody to inspect them and see what they are doing, the money may go wrong; that is why there must be somebody to look after the money spent on these schools. There must be somebody to see that their teaching is up to the standard and the education that is given is such as should be given in

them. We have provided for one inspector. The other officers will do a certain amount of inspection, but they will be unable to cope with the work in all these schools and so there must be an inspector for this purpose. This post is vacant at present but it is hoped to fill it up very soon.

Under the head "Schools" we have provided for Rs. 1,63,000 and under the head "Scholarship" Rs. 20,000 and "Grants-in-aid" Rs. 86,000. The School of Arts has not been abolished, as the mover seems to imagine, but it has been transferred to the Education Department and is being more properly dealt with by that department than the Department of Industries. That is why no provision is shown for this school in this budget this year. It will be found that the number of staff under the head "Principals and other teaching staff—Technical and Industrial Schools"—is 75 as compared with 72 last year. This item is nothing to be ashamed of. This slight increase in the teaching staff shows that our schools and pupils are increasing in number. There is a lump provision for Rs. 28,000 for the revision of the pay of the teaching staff. That, perhaps, to those who are not acquainted with the Finance Department, will require some explanation. The pay of the staff was revised last year but there was no money in the budget to give effect to the revision. The revision dates from last year and we have now had to make provision with retrospective effect for the amount due to the staff under the revised scheme.

There are two other provisions to which the mover invited our attention. These scholarships and stipends are really the amount given to students who do a certain amount of pupil teaching, but who are learning themselves as well. The clerks and servants of the schools require no comment; they are quite reasonable in number.

I find another item of Rs. 20,000 for other contingent charges under Technical and Industrial Schools. This, again, is a large item which might well excite the curiosity of the House and I, therefore, hasten to assure it that it includes the cost of the electric power loom which it is now proposed to instal in the Serampore Weaving Institute with a view to improving and modernising the methods of weaving taught at that institution. I do not suppose that the House will object to this.

[Here the member reached his time-limit.]

The motion of Maulvi Md. Nurul Huq Chaudhury was then put and lost.

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA and Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 5,72,000 under 'Detailed Account No. 35A(*b*). Industries (Transferred),' be reduced by Re. 1."

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: I move that the demand of Rs. 9,04,000 under the head "35.—Industries" be refused.

You were very pleased, Sir, and we are grateful to you that you have given us the opportunity to discuss in this House the proceedings that were held yesterday somewhere else, because that related to a question of constitutional practice and you have told us that when the whole amount, i.e., Rs. 9,04,000 under the head "35.—Industries" will be refused, and the matter will come up before the Council, then at that very moment, we would be able to raise the question of constitutional issue. As a student of politics, I took great care to know the constitutional practices that are prevailing in England and also in India. Sir, you remember that on one occasion, you told us that this Chamber did not follow the practice and procedure of the House of Commons.

Mr. PRESIDENT: No such statement was made by me.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: In all respects it does not follow to be more correct. If we want to establish a convention or a constitutional practice, we are to look to the Mother of Parliaments, that is the House of Commons. It was not my privilege to go to England and see the working of that sacred House, but some of my friends here, who have been there have told me that the King does not take any part in the politics of the country. He is above politics. The Governor, Sir, of this Province is a representative of the King and as such he is above politics. This I thought to be the practice so far as my poor knowledge of English practice goes and I gathered from what we were taught in the Universities of Calcutta and Dacca that this ought to be the practice of a constitutional Governor of a province like Bengal. But to our utter dismay, what do we find? We find that the whole House was not invited to Government House, but His Excellency the Governor of the Province invited a few members of the House to discuss about the constitutional practice. Sir, the more prudent course on the part of His Excellency would have been not to invite any members to Government House to talk to them about the politics of the country and to advise them on the matter, but to have invited the whole House and held a private discussion with them. But that was not the case. Sir, the Governor being the representative of His Majesty the King Emperor called into his house a certain section of the House and there made them understand a certain constitutional practice. Was it right, Sir, on the part of His Excellency?

Mr. PRESIDENT: You are now reflecting on the conduct of His Excellency the Governor. You are not entitled to do that.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: No, Sir, I was not making any reflection——

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: Is not the member entitled to say that His Excellency acted against the constitution?

Mr. PRESIDENT: He was not saying that. What he was saying was "was it right on the part of His Excellency to do this and that?"

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: If the Governor is supposed to be above politics like His Majesty the King——

Mr. PRESIDENT: Mr. Banerjee, that is not a matter for me to give a ruling on.

Mr. ASHINY COOMAR BANERJEE: Sir, I have not finished my sentence. As a representative of the King, the Governor is supposed not to take part in politics. Are we not then entitled to discuss the conduct of His Excellency as the British Parliament discussed the conduct of Charles I?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have nothing whatever to do with Charles I. I am bound by the rules of procedure which prohibit a reflection on the conduct of His Excellency and that is all I am concerned with.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: Sir, obeying your ruling that that was a reflection on the conduct of His Excellency, I should say, was the Governor constitutionally right or was the power given to the Governor under the constitution to ask some of the members of this House and to discuss a matter in which he ought to have taken the whole House into his confidence? (Shame, shame.) Sir, I say His Excellency has taken part in the party politics of the country.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order, Maulvi Saheb, this is a reflection on the conduct of His Excellency. You must really be very careful. Please do not let your feelings run away with you and cause you to transgress the limit.

Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: If His Excellency did not take part in party politics, then I do not understand why His Excellency should ask a certain section of the House to come and discuss about the constitutional practice. Sir, I could have understood if, instead of asking certain members, His Excellency had asked the leader of my party to go and have a discussion with him and also the leader or leaders of the other parties and then have a conference, then His Excellency would have acted most constitutionally; but, Sir, His Excellency acted most unconstitutionally.

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is a reflection. You must withdraw that remark. We must treat His Excellency with respect in the Council. (Cries of: "Withdraw, withdraw.")

Dr. PRAMATHANATH BANERJEA: Are we precluded from making such remarks that such and such action of His Excellency is unconstitutional?

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have nothing to do with constitutional practice. But the remark of Maulvi Nurul Huq is a reflection on the conduct of His Excellency the Governor.

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: May I, Sir, rise to a point of order? Are we precluded from making such remarks as—such and such action on the part of the His Excellency is quite unconstitutional? Can we not say that?

Mr. PRESIDENT: The rule is quite definite. Rule 14(2) (*iv*) says:—

A member while speaking must not reflect upon the conduct of His Majesty the King or the Governor-General or any Governor or any Court of Justice.

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: Even if His Excellency acts against the constitutional practice?

Mr. PRESIDENT: That is not a matter for this Council.

Mr. C. R. DAS: May I ask if there is any distinction between personal conduct and constitutional conduct? Is this Council precluded from discussing whether certain steps taken by His Excellency are or are not within the constitution?

Mr. PRESIDENT: It is a point of difficulty, but I find nothing in the rule which limits the question of conduct, and I am afraid the rule is so general in its terms that it excludes any reflection on the conduct of His Excellency. That is how I read the rule.

Mr. C. R. DAS: We must obey your ruling, Sir, but it seems to me that under the circumstances it is useless going on with the discussion, because the whole point of view that we desire to present is that the voting of to-day has been influenced and that it is likely—— (Cries of: "No, no.")

Mr. C. R. DAS: Yes, a thousand times, yes. (Cries of "No, no.")

[At this stage there was shouting of "No" and "Yes" from the two sides of the Chamber.]

Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA: We can shout the loudest of all.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order.

Mr. C. R. DAS: Sir, I am in possession of the House.

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: I rise to a point of order. What is the meaning of all this shouting? Mr. Das is in possession of the House.

Mr. C. R. DAS: This shouting indicates to my mind now clearly that the voting of to-day has been influenced—(Cries of: "No, no") —and under the situation that has arisen we desire to take no further part in the discussion. (Cries of: Shame, shame.")

[A number of members then left the Chamber.]

Mr. PRESIDENT: Order, order.

The motion was then put and lost.

The motion of the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Ghuznavi under the head "35.—Industries" was then put and agreed to.

37.—Miscellaneous Departments.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: I move that a sum of Rs. 4,01,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "37.—Miscellaneous Departments."

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Dr. BIDHAN CHANDRA ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 10,000 under the head '37.—Miscellaneous Departments (Reserved and Transferred)—Inspector of Factories—House-rent and other allowances,' be refused."

Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 1,38,000 under the head '37A.—Inspectors of Factories' be refused."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 1,38,000 under the head '37A.—Inspectors of Factories,' be reduced by Rs. 9,600."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 5,000 under the head '37B.—Provincial Statistics,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 10,000 under the head '37C.—Examinations.' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 61,000 under the head '37D.—Miscellaneous, be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY, Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI, Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE, and Babu

MONMOHAN NEOGI: "That the demand for Rs. 1,27,000 under the head '37.—Miscellaneous Departments—British Empire Exhibition,' be refused."

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN, and Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: "That the demand of Rs. 4,01,000 under the head '37.—Miscellaneous Departments,' be refused."

The motion of the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald was then put and agreed to.

41.—Civil Works.

MINISTER in charge of DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC WORKS (the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Ghuznavi): I move that a sum of Rs. 83,34,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "41.—Civil Works."

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand for Rs. 28,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for minor works in connection with the Victoria Boys' School and Dow Hill Girls' School, be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 4,07,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works—Reserved,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 68,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for reconstruction of Subdivisional buildings, Alipore Duars,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 12,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for construction of sub-treasury and guard-house at Alipore Duars,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 30,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for additions and alterations to Collector's Court buildings, Krishnagar,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 52,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for construction of public offices at Maijdi, be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 20,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for construction of a double Munsifi at Chikandi, be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 60,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for construction of a quadruple Munsifi at Pirojpur,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 10,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for alteration to premises No. 85, Lower Circular Road, Calcutta,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 75,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for construction of a double Munsifi at Gopalganj, be refused."

Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 38,000 for acquisition of land for Civil Court buildings, Serampore, under the head '41.—Civil Works,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 10,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for construction of a sub-jail at Patuakhali,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 29,000 under the head '41. Civil Works' for additions and alterations to the Gaibandha Sub-Jail, be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 36,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for construction of new police lines at Khulna,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY, SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ, Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY, and Rai HAREHDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand for Rs. 1,00,000 under the head '41A.—Civil Works—Police Buildings—Kalighat Section House,' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ, Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY, Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI, and Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand of Rs. 1,50,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for construction of buildings for Bhowanipur Section-House' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY, and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand for Rs. 1,21,000 under the head '41A.—Civil Works—Police Buildings—Fenwick Bazar—Mounted Police Quarters' be refused."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI, SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ, and Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 82,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for Motor Vehicles Department, Ballygunge' be refused."

Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY, Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI, and SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 72,000 for sanitary improvements to the Burdwan Police lines, under the head '41.—Civil Works' be refused."

SHAH SYED EMDADUL HAQ: "That the demand of Rs. 1,00,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for construction of Anglo-Indian Students' Barrack for the Bengal Engineering College, Sibpur,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 1,75,000 under the head "41A.—Civil Works—Educational Buildings—David Hare Training College' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 1,27,000 under the head '41A.—Civil Works—Educational Buildings—Guru-training Schools' be refused."

Babu BORODA PROSAD DEY, Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI, and Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand of Rs. 1,00,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works' for construction of nurses' quarters in the Presidency General Hospital,' be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 25,73,500 for original works (buildings) under the head '41A.—Civil Works,' be reduced by Rs. 15,73,500."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI, and Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand of Rs. 3,00,000 under the head '41. Civil Works Communications' for the improvement of the Mainaguri -Dhupguri Road, including construction of Lower Jaldhaka bridge and subdivisional buildings, be refused."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 50,000 under the head '41.—Civil Works—Communications' for laying 2-inch tar macadam surface on the Strand Road from the north of the Eden Garden Road to Napier Road bifurcation, be refused."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 32,90,000 for repairs under the head '41A.—Civil Works,' be reduced by Rs. 20,00,000."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 12,77,000 under the head '41A.—Civil Works Establishment,' be reduced by Rs. 2,00,000."

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 2,38,000 for grants-in-aid under the head '41A.—Civil Works,' be reduced by Rs. 1,00,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 79,27,000 under the head '41A.—Civil Works (Transferred)' be refused."

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY, Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY, Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE: "That the demand of Rs. 83,34,000 under the head '41. Civil Works,' be refused."

The original motion of the Hon'ble Hadji Mr. A. K. Abu Ahmed Khan Ghuznavi under the head "41.—Civil Works" was then put and agreed to.

43.—Famine Relief and Insurance.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: I move that a sum of Rs. 50,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "43.—Famine Relief and Insurance."

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN, Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY, and Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: "That the demand of Rs. 50,000 under the head '43. Famine Relief and Insurance,' be refused."

The motion of the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald was then put and agreed to.

45.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: I move that a sum of Rs. 43,63,000 be granted under the head "45.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions."

The following motion was called but not moved:—

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN, and Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: "That the demand of Rs. 43,63,000 under the head '45.—Superannuation allowances and pensions,' be refused."

Babu SARAT CHANDRA BASU: I have been sitting quietly to watch what has been going on in the Council and I must say that we have come to a very regrettable state of things. We have been seeing what has appeared in the newspapers and have been hearing what is being said by many of the members of the House. A charge was being laid against the Swaraj party and also against the Nationalist party for wrecking the Council. I deny the charge. If there has been any attempt to wreck the Council, the attempt has been coming from altogether a different quarter—I need not name it. It is quite apparent. What I am going to submit, Mr. President, is that the proceedings that are going on here, have taken the shape of a mere mockery and a farce. You are aware, Mr. President, that this House has got no power, whatever, to bring in any budget except through the Finance Member. This House has got no power whatever to make any appropriation of the funds. There cannot be any motion by the members of the Council to increase or alter the distination of the grants as we get it from section 91, clause 2, of the Budget Rules. The only thing that the members can do is either to omit or to reduce the grants—that is the constitution. If any member has made the proposal to omit or to reduce any grant it has been criticised as unconstitutional. Now, the very constitution that is in front of us—the constitution that regulates all procedure is to omit or reduce any grant. If we cannot propose that a certain portion of the taxation be devoted to certain purposes, if we cannot ask the House to appropriate any part of the taxation to any particular subject, the only check that we are able to exercise on the budget is to ask to reduce or to omit a grant. That is exactly the policy that was being pursued by the Swarajist and Nationalist members and I cannot for the life of me understand how such procedure can be called unconstitutional. But, unfortunately, what is constitutional or what is unconstitutional has not been definitely laid down. But this much we know that a certain amount of wire-pulling has been going on from behind which has been influencing the votes, and which has been putting an obstacle to the members of the House, asking to omit or to reduce the grants. If the members of the House had been free in discussing the matter, if the members of the House had been free in offering expression of opinion with reference to the omission or reduction of grants, I believe we would have come to different conclusions altogether. I therefore submit for your consideration, Mr. President, that we are altogether powerless in the matter of controlling the budget: we are powerless to ask the House to give a single farthing to such important nation-building subjects as they are called, viz., technical and industrial education: we are powerless to ask the House to contribute a single farthing more than what has pleased the Finance Member to propose for the water-supply of the several districts in Bengal: we are absolutely powerless to propose the grant of a single pice for the prevention of malaria and for other subjects which are the crying needs

of our country. Then what have we done? We have simply asked the House to omit or reduce grants. But if the omission or reduction of the grants is said to be bringing a deadlock to the House, then the constitution requires to be changed. It is the constitution under which we are working and if in working under the constitution emotions are exhibited and in the absence of the reasons abuses are poured forth, I submit to you, Mr. President, the House has ceased to be what it ought to be, and it is absolutely useless for the members of the Council to come here and discuss matters. It seems that the House has been merely converted into a debating club without producing any effect, because under the two branches of the administration, viz., the Reserved and the Transferred branches, we get it from the constitution that the Reserved subjects are entirely under the control of the Governor and so far as the Transferred subjects are concerned, our constitution lays down that the Governor will be guided by the advice of the Ministers who are supposed to represent the people. Now, who are these Ministers? The Ministers are not elected although they are nominated from among the elected members Does their advice guide the Government? But I find that the Ministers get themselves merged in the Government and lose their identity altogether. Instead of guiding the Government, they follow the dictates of the Government, and their orders upon the subjects. That is as I understand, Mr. President. I may be wrong. At any rate, so far as we have found during the last month or so, we could not find the slightest difference between the Ministers and the Members of the Government. And we have also got it in the constitution that although the Government is to be guided by the advice of the Ministers——

Mr. P. N. GUHA: May I rise to a point of order, Sir?

Mr. PRESIDENT: Please do not interrupt the member.

Babu SARAT CHANDRA BASU: Their advice can be set at naught, so that whilst on the one hand we find that the Government is bound by the vote of the majority of the Council, Government is not at all bound by the advice that the Ministers give; on the other hand the procedure hitherto followed has shown that it is not the Ministers that are advising the Government, but it is the Government which is dictating to the Ministers. Under these circumstances, I submit to you, Mr. President, with great respect for the Ministers, to the Members of the Government, as well as to His Excellency that the procedure of the Council has practically become a farce, and it does not serve any good purpose for anyone of us to come here leaving our work behind, for the only purpose of saying a few words in the Council.

Mr. J. CAMPBELL FORRESTER: I would not like the impression to go forth, Sir, that the Conference which was held yesterday at the

Government House has influenced the voting in this Council. As far as I have seen, at any rate four of the members who attended that Conference have not voted in the Government lobby.

The motion of the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald was then put and agreed to.

46.—Stationery and Printing.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: I move that a sum of Rs. 20,93,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "46.—Stationery and Printing."

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA: "That the demand for Rs. 10,43,000 for stationery supplied from central stores under the head '46.—Stationery and Printing,' be reduced by Rs. 2,43,000."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: "That the demand of Rs. 9,17,000 under the head '46.—Government Presses,' be refused."

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 20,43,000 under the head '46 Stationery and Printing,' be refused."

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 50,000 under the head '46.—Stationery and Printing—Stationery supplied from Central Stores (Transferred),' be refused."

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY, Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY, and Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN: "That the demand for Rs. 20,93,000 under the head '46.—Stationery and Printing (Reserved),' be refused."

The motion of the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald was then put and agreed to.

Miscellaneous.

The Hon'ble Mr J. DONALD: I move that a sum of Rs. 3,52,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "47.—Miscellaneous."

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 4,000 under the head '47.—Miscellaneous' for Durbar presents and allowances to Vakils, be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 9,000 under the head '47A.—Charges on account of vagrants, etc.,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 32,000 under the head '47B.—Petty Establishment,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, and Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA: "That the demand of Rs. 32,000 under the head '47C.—Special Commissions of Enquiry,' be refused."

Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 5,500 under the head '47D.—Contributions,' be refused."

Babu BEJOY KRISHNA BOSE, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, and Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI: "That the demand of Rs. 1,15,700 under the head '47E.—Miscellaneous and unforeseen charges,' be refused."

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 1,15,700 under the head '47E. Miscellaneous' for miscellaneous and unforeseen charges, be reduced by Rs. 50,000."

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY, Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: "That the demand of Rs. 3,52,000 under the head '47.—Miscellaneous,' be refused."

The motion of the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald was then put and agreed to.

52.—Miscellaneous Adjustments.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: I move that a sum of Rs. 12,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "52—Miscellaneous Adjustments".

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Babu ROMES CHANDRA BACCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY,

Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN, Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: and Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: "That the demand of Rs. 12,000 under the head '52.—Miscellaneous Adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments,' be refused."

The motion of the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald was then put and agreed to.

55.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation and Drainage Works.

MEMBER in charge of DEPARTMENT of IRRIGATION (the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan): With your leave, Sir, I wish to alter the figure in the motion from Rs. 35,000 to Rs. 20,000, and I beg to move that a sum of Rs. 20,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "55.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation and Drainage Works."

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Rai HARENDRANATH CHAUDHURI: "That the demand of Rs. 8,000 under the head '55.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works—B (*a*) Productive Establishment,' be refused."

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY, Babu ROMES CHANDRA BAGCHI, Babu HEMANTA KUMAR SARKAR, Mr. J. M. SEN GUPTA, Dr. KUMUD SANKAR RAY, Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN, Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY, Babu SATYENDRA CHANDRA MITRA, and Maulvi Md. NURUL HUQ CHAUDHURY: "That the demand of Rs. 7,75,000 under the head '55.—Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works,' be refused."

The motion of the Hon'ble the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan was then put and agreed to.

Expenditure in England.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. DONALD: I move that a sum of Rs. 8,73,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "Expenditure in England."

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Kumar SHIB SHEKHARESWAR RAY: "That the demand for Rs. 90,000 under the head 'Expenditure in England—37.—British Empire Exhibition,' be refused."

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 6,99,000 under the head 'Home Charges and XIII.—Irrigation (Reserved)' be refused."

Babu MANMATHA NATH ROY: "That the demand for Rs. 1,74,000 under the head 'Home Charges (Transferred),' be refused."

Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN: "That the demand of Rs. 8,73,000 under the head 'Expenditure in England,' be refused."

The motion of the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald was then put and agreed to.

Loans and Advances.

The Hon'ble Mr. DONALD: I move that a sum of Rs. 9,59,000 be granted for expenditure under the head "Loans and Advances."

The following motions were called but not moved:—

Maulvi Md. ABDUL JUBBAR PAHLOWAN: "That the demand of Rs. 9,59,000 under the head 'Loans and Advances,' be refused."

The motion of the Hon'ble Mr. J. Donald was then put and agreed to.

Prorogation.

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have it in command from His Excellency the Governor to announce that the Council stands prorogued until such date as may be notified hereafter.

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TO

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(Official Report.)

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